- 1 [The R.M.C. 803 session was called to order at 0833, 1 August 2008.]
- 2 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order. All parties
- 3 present when the court recessed are once again present. The members
- 4 are not here.
- 5 The defense motion to dismiss Specification 2 under Charge
- 6 I, under RMC 917 is denied.
- 7 The defense motion--is there any evidence that the
- 8 interpreters are listening?
- 9 CT INT: Hello.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Good morning.
- 11 CT INT: We're here, Your Honor.
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Thank you.
- I was announcing that the defense motion under Rule 917 for
- 14 a finding of not guilty as to Charge II--I'm sorry, Specification 2
- 15 under Charge I is denied.
- In reaching this finding, I determined that there is some
- 17 evidence which, together with all reasonable inferences and
- 18 applicable presumptions, could reasonably tend to establish every
- 19 essential element of this charged offense. The evidence has been
- 20 viewed in the light most favorable to the prosecution without an
- 21 evaluation of the credibility of the witnesses.
- 22 As to Specifications 3 and 4 of Charge II, the motion is
- 23 granted.

- 1 I will instruct the members on the lesser included offense
- 2 of attempt.
- 3 There is another motion pending.
- 4 Okay. Apparently there's a problem getting the feed to the
- 5 media center that we'll have to resolve.
- Two weeks ago, the defense team made a motion for pretrial
- 7 confinement credit or an improvement in the conditions of Mr.
- 8 Hamdan's confinement and for double credit for the time in which he's
- 9 been confined in punitive conditions. I have been waiting now for
- 10 some additional evidence from the government, and I believe that the
- 11 defense has some additional evidence they might want to offer on that
- 12 motion.
- 13 Trial Counsel, where are we with respect to your homework?
- 14 TC [LCDR STONE]: I think we'll have it by this afternoon, sir.
- 15 It's drafted, it's signed. We're going over the last bit to make
- 16 sure that it includes everything that you had otherwise asked for,
- 17 and you should have it hopefully by lunchtime.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: What exactly do you remember me having asked
- 19 for?
- 20 TC [LCDR STONE]: I have my notes specifically here.
- Your main concerns were to update his conditions of what
- 22 his discipline status and behavior was basically from the end of the
- 23 last declaration, which was February through June, but now it would

- 1 be through July. And then an explanation with regards to how JTF
- 2 GTMO moves individuals through different----
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: ----camps and levels and things.
- 4 TC [LCDR STONE]: The purpose of moving individuals at the times
- 5 when they may otherwise be moved. We do have some information, in
- 6 fact, I think we even took some of that information with regards to
- 7 the last motion that was heard on the information, we'll
- 8 provide that. We can provide it with regards to 2003 and then 2005
- 9 and then 2007 as well. I don't think that it's changed much, but
- 10 there are different SOPs that both sides have and have had that
- 11 probably address that.
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- TC [LCDR STONE]: Probably easier than anything else that would
- 14 otherwise be done. And those were the two main pieces of information
- 15 that you were primarily looking for.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. And is a chronology easy to come up
- 17 with that indicates why he was in different camps and whether those
- 18 conditions are essentially the same or different?
- 19 TC [LCDR STONE]: Well, the initial declaration talks about and
- 20 does say that--does lay out each camp and how they're, by Bureau of
- 21 Prison standards Camps 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 are considered, the same
- 22 with regards to the type of confinement that exists. That's in the
- 23 original declaration. However, I think if you look at the defense's

- 1 motion, if you look at physically what it looks like in Camps 1, 2,
- 2 and 3; there is a difference between the fact that there are wire
- 3 separating detainees at Camps 1, 2, and 3 vice 5 and 6.
- 4 So there's--the affidavit lays out that they are
- 5 technically by Bureau of Prisons standards and here considered the
- 6 same type of confinement. That's already set out. There is a
- 7 factual distinction that probably I think the defense mentioned that
- 8 deals with, while it may technically be the same that you have a
- 9 functional living difference with regards to Camps 1, 2, and 3.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 11 TC [LCDR STONE]: The declaration will have us say that, for JTF
- 12 GTMO purposes, one, two, three, five, and six are all considered the
- 13 same type of cell.
- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, I will look forward to receiving
- 15 that affidavit and that explanation, then, and I will resolve this
- 16 motion this weekend.
- TC [LCDR STONE]: Yes, sir.
- 18 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Is there some additional evidence that the
- 19 defense has collected from its discovery?
- 20 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: We did. We received a complete log of the
- 21 camps, including Camp Echo, detailing things like how much exercise
- 22 Mr. Hamdan received.

- 1 The Court has his declaration of conditions in Camp Echo at
- 2 the time that the camp was put in, at the time that he filed it in
- 3 the federal courts. We have now a log that proved that that
- 4 conditions is exact.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Even though the taking of evidence on the
- 6 motion ended the other day, I will accept from you as well as from
- 7 the government additional documents you might want to provide. And
- 8 to make sure I understand what it is you're showing me, I will be
- 9 happy to have you highlight for me notes on the documents so that I
- 10 get what it is that these things are telling me.
- 11 Sometimes these camp documents are a little bit full of
- 12 code, and I don't necessarily understand what you have learned about
- 13 what those documents mean. Okay? Mr. Hamdan's waited patiently for
- 14 a ruling on this motion, and I will give it on Monday. Okay?
- Now, is there anything else before we call the next
- 16 witness?
- DC [LCDR MIZER]: Your Honor, I just want to be clear for the
- 18 record that the central thrust of our 917 motion was Specification 1
- 19 of Charge I, which I don't think you addressed on the record.
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I thought it was Specification 2.
- DC [LCDR MIZER]: It's Specification 1, the conspiracy, Your
- 22 Honor. It is the defense's position that there is no evidence again
- 23 that there was an agreement by Mr. Hamdan to participate in any of

- 1 the most serious allegations of against him. It's the first issue
- 2 addressed in the motion, the written motion that we submitted.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, the reason I concluded that there was
- 4 sufficient evidence with respect to Specification 2, which is another
- 5 specification of conspiracy, is because I felt that the evidence
- 6 suggesting that Mr. Hamdan was aware of the al Qaeda's purposes and
- 7 bin Laden's plans and his oath of bayat, even conditional bayat, was
- 8 enough to get over a 917 motion.
- 9 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: To that effect, Your Honor, I would ask for
- 10 reconsideration with what you just stated, because it's charged as
- 11 two separate conspiracies. And I would note, in Specification 1, we
- 12 charged transportation of weapons systems, generally. In
- 13 Specification 2, we charge a separate conspiracy, a separate one that
- 14 exists independently of any other conspiracy. There has to be a
- 15 separate meeting of the minds. And so if you're seeing this level of
- 16 evidence for Specification 1 and then bringing it down to
- 17 Specification 2, where does the independent conspiracy that was
- 18 required for Specification 2 come from? Other than an inference
- 19 that--because one has missiles, there was a separate conspiracy, and
- 20 again will stand on my argument before. But there if we're using the
- 21 same set of evidence to prove two separate conspiracies that does not
- 22 make a lot of sense to me, at least, Your Honor.

- 1 So based on the Court's recitation of what it understood, I
- 2 don't understand how we have established a separate conspiracy. In
- 3 fact, just looking at the charges and how proof can be held on
- 4 whether we had had multiplitious charges of the contingencies of
- 5 proof, I don't see how Specification 2 does not merge into
- 6 Specification 1, because I would note that Specification 1 is charged
- 7 from 1996 until November 24, 2001.
- 8 Now, clearly there could be one conspiracy and a separate
- 9 conspiracy in this area, but the Court has not recited, and I would
- 10 ask if your written findings, if you continue to do it--the separate
- 11 evidence that was sufficient to determine there was a second
- 12 conspiracy for purposes of the record.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 14 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Thank you, Your Honor.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, I'm sorry, when I listened to
- 16 your argument yesterday, perhaps, I did write down Specification 2 of
- 17 Charge I.
- 18 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I did argue Specification 1 as well.
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 20 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: That they were proving that the government,
- 21 along the lines of a criminal enterprise theory on one, and there had
- 22 been no showing that he had entered into a conspiracy to kill or do
- 23 any of those things. If the Court disagrees, I won't belabor the

- 1 point or ask for reconsideration. But, based on the Court's
- 2 recitation of what you've considered, I don't see the separate
- 3 evidence for Specification 2.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, what I guess I should do is let
- 5 Commander Stone speak.
- TC [LCDR STONE]: Well, the only thing I can say, sir, is that I
- 7 think your ruling on, I think it was, D-014 on multiplicity, where it
- 8 was a hold open until the end of all evidence and then findings; and
- 9 then, my understanding was, is that you would then take a look at
- 10 whatever the findings happened to be, take the evidence, and then
- 11 make the final ruling based on that. Which----
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, I am still open. And I told the
- 13 members on the first day that I would probably merge any
- 14 specifications that appeared to be multiplitious after findings. But
- 15 I will reconsider. Over the weekend, as I look at writing the
- 16 instructions and looking again at the evidence, I will take another
- 17 look at that.
- Okay. I apologize if I misunderstood your argument. Let's
- 19 call the members in and continue with presentation of the defense.
- 20 Shall we?
- 21 [The R.M.C. 803 session terminated and the military commission
- 22 commenced at 0848, 1 August 2008.]

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Good morning. Thank you very much. Please
- 2 be seated [all persons did as directed]. The members have returned
- 3 to the courtroom.
- 4 Defense, you may call your next witness.
- 5 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, the defense calls Ms. Gaskins.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Good morning.
- 7 If you will face the trial counsel and he will swear you
- 8 in.
- 9 AMY GASKINS, Civilian, was called as a witness for the defense, was
- 10 sworn, and testified as follows:
- 11 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 12 Questions by the trial counsel:
- 13 Q [LCDR STONE]: State your name, spelling your last name.
- 14 A [MS. GASKINS]: My name is Amy Gaskins. G-A-S-K-I-N-S.
- 15 Questions by the civilian defense counsel:
- Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Good morning, Ms. Gaskins.
- 17 A [MS. GASKINS]: Good morning.
- 18 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: My name is Joe McMillan; I'm counsel for
- 19 Salim Hamdan. We've met before. Let me ask you first to state your
- 20 current position.
- 21 A [MS. GASKINS]: I'm a government contractor, and I work for
- 22 SRA International, Incorporated.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Is your employer currently providing contract
- 2 services to the Office of the Chief Defense Counsel for Military
- 3 Commissions?
- 4 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 5 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And have you been assigned to that project,
- 6 that is, to provide services to the Offices of the Chief Defense
- 7 Counsel?
- 8 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 9 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Can you describe briefly what sort of
- 10 services you provide?
- 11 A [MS. GASKINS]: I'm assigned as an intelligence analyst to do
- 12 research, and also classified--look at classified documents.
- 13 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Prior to taking your current position, did
- 14 you ever serve in the United States military?
- 15 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 16 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Can you describe to the members which service
- 17 you served in----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Mr. McMillan----
- 19 O [MR. MCMILLAN]: ---and which---
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I'm sorry; I'm getting signals from your
- 21 bench that makes it sound like you're going too fast.
- 22 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: I'll slow down.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, could you describe to the
- 2 Commission members the branch and service in which you served, and
- 3 the specific department or branch that you occupied?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: I served in the United States Army, and I was
- 5 a Military Intelligence Officer.
- 6 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: How long did you serve in the Army?
- 7 A [MS. GASKINS]: Six and a half years.
- 8 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, do you have a security
- 9 clearance?
- 10 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 11 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: At what level?
- 12 A [MS. GASKINS]: I have a Top Secret SCI, and I've also taken
- 13 the CIA's full scope polygraph.
- 14 O [MR. MCMILLAN]: Now, in light of your assignment to the
- 15 Office of the Chief Defense Counsel, you were asked by the defense
- 16 team on this case to undertake a couple of research projects. Is
- 17 that correct?
- 18 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 19 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Can you explain what those two projects were?
- 20 A [MS. GASKINS]: I was assigned to research rules of engagement
- 21 that mentioned al Qaeda, and also publicly available information
- 22 concerning the start of hostilities.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Okay. Two separate investigations; one
- 2 involving public records relating to Operation Enduring Freedom.
- 3 Correct?
- 4 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 5 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And a second relating to classified Rules of
- 6 Engagement relating to Operation Enduring Freedom?
- 7 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 8 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Okay.
- 9 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, may I have this document
- 10 displayed to the military judge and to the witness.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You may.
- 12 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, can you identify the document on
- 13 the screen?
- 14 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes. It's the Authorization for Use of
- 15 Military Force.
- Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Is this one of the items that came to your
- 17 attention during the course of reviewing public documents?
- 18 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 19 O [MR. MCMILLAN]: And this is a Joint Resolution of the United
- 20 States Congress. Is that correct?
- 21 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 22 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, the defense requests that this
- 23 document be admitted into evidence as the next defense exhibit in

- 1 order, which I believe would be Defense Exhibit Z, Zulu, if I get
- 2 that right.
- TC [LCDR STONE]: You got it right.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very well. Defense Exhibit Zulu will be
- 5 admitted without objection.
- 6 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: I would request that it be displayed to the
- 7 members, Your Honor.
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You may.
- 9 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, you've identified this as the
- 10 Authorization for the Use of Military Force. Can you tell us the
- 11 date of this document?
- 12 A [MS. GASKINS]: The date is September 18, 2001.
- 13 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And can you tell us, by directing your
- 14 attention to the first sentence on your screen, what the purpose of
- 15 this joint resolution was?
- 16 A [MS. GASKINS]: The purpose of this joint resolution is to
- 17 authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against those
- 18 responsible for the recent attacks launched against the United
- 19 States.
- 20 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, may I display--have this next
- 21 document displayed to the witness and to the Military Judge?
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You may. Does the government need a
- 23 foundation for this document?

- 1 ATC [MAJ ASHMAWY]: No, sir.
- 2 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: What comes after Zulu?
- 3 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Alpha-Alpha.
- 4 ATC [MAJ ASHMAWY]: Let the record reflect that the civilian
- 5 defense counsel got it right.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I don't want to embarrass Major Indigo, but
- 7 the record will so reflect.
- 8 ATC [MAJ ASHMAWY]: Your Honor, I've got confirmation that the
- 9 Air Force does in fact use Indigo.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I apologize. Defense Exhibit
- 11 Alpha-Alpha.
- 12 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, I would request that this
- 13 document be admitted into evidence as Exhibit Alpha-Alpha.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very well.
- 15 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: And that it be displayed to the members.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You may.
- 17 Questions by the civilian defense counsel:
- 18 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, can you identify this document
- 19 on your screen?
- 20 A [MS. GASKINS]: This is a Presidential Address to the Nation
- 21 dated October 7, 2001.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And very briefly, just by looking at the
- 2 first paragraph of this set of remarks, can you tell us what the
- 3 general purpose of these comments were?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: The general purpose of these comments is to
- 5 announce the beginning of hostile action in the Middle East toward al
- 6 Qaeda and the Taliban.
- 7 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And the date of this set of remarks was?
- 8 A [MS. GASKINS]: October 7, 2001.
- 9 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And this announced the commencement of
- 10 hostilities for Operation Enduring Freedom?
- 11 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 12 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Specifically mentioning military strikes
- 13 having begun against al Qaeda, and military installations of the
- 14 Taliban regimes. Is that correct?
- 15 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 16 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, the next two exhibits are
- 17 classified documents. We have cleared with the court security
- 18 officer the questions that we wish to ask Ms. Gaskins about these
- 19 documents. I will not display them on the overhead, but I would like
- 20 the bailiff to hand a copy to the witness and a copy to the Military
- 21 Judge.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good.

- 1 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: The prosecution has previously been
- 2 provided with a copy of this document.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good.
- 4 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, can you identify the document
- 5 that has been handed to you?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: This document is the CENTCOM Standing Rules of
- 7 Engagement for U.S. Forces.
- 8 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: When were these rules of engagement issued,
- 9 and what period of time do they cover?
- 10 A [MS. GASKINS]: These Rules were issued 1 October 1995, and
- 11 they cover that period until the present.
- 12 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Did this set of Rules of Engagement come to
- 13 your attention in the course of one of the research projects you were
- 14 asked to undertake in this matter?
- 15 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 16 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, the defense would move that
- 17 this document be accepted into evidence as the next defense exhibit
- 18 in order, Beta-Beta.
- 19 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Bravo-Bravo.
- 20 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: It was only a matter of time.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Is that how we go to double letters, is
- 22 Bravo-Bravo? Okay. Very good. Without objection, apparently,
- 23 Defense Exhibit Bravo-Bravo can be admitted into evidence and the

- 1 words "for identification" be stricken. I will give my copy to the
- 2 court reporter, what appears to be the original.
- 3 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, do these standing Rules of
- 4 Engagement for CENTCOM make any mention at all of al Qaeda as an
- 5 enemy of the United States?
- 6 A [MS. GASKINS]: No.
- 7 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Do they authorize strikes against al Qaeda?
- 8 A [MS. GASKINS]: No, they do not.
- 9 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Do they mention or authorize strikes against
- 10 terrorists, generally?
- 11 A [MS. GASKINS]: No.
- 12 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Are these Rules of Engagement still in
- 13 effect?
- 14 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 15 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And can you remind us when they were first
- 16 issued?
- 17 A [MS. GASKINS]: 1 October 1995.
- 18 O [MR. MCMILLAN]: And this relates to which theater of command?
- 19 A [MS. GASKINS]: U.S. CENTCOM, Central Command.
- 20 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, could I ask the bailiff to hand
- 21 the witness the next classified document? And there's a copy for the
- 22 Military Judge.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You may.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, can you identify this document?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: These are the Rules of Engagement, Serial 2,
- 3 for Operation Enduring Freedom.
- 4 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Is this set of Rules of Engagement
- 5 subordinate to the theater-wide Rules of Engagement issued by
- 6 CENTCOM?
- 7 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 8 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: So is this an operation-specific set of Rules
- 9 of Engagement within the CENTCOM area of command?
- 10 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 11 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Was this a document that you also found in
- 12 the course of your research project in this matter?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes, it is.
- 14 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, the defense would move that
- 15 this document be admitted into evidence as Defense Exhibit
- 16 Charlie-Charlie.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very well. Without objection, this will be
- 18 admitted, apparently.
- 19 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: No objections.
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I will give my copy to the court
- 21 reporter.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Ms. Gaskins, does this document, the Rules of
- 2 Engagement for Operation Enduring Freedom, identify al Qaeda
- 3 explicitly?
- 4 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes, it does.
- 5 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Does this document authorize status-based
- 6 strikes against al Qaeda?
- 7 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 8 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Does it authorize strikes against command and
- 9 control elements of al Qaeda expressly?
- 10 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes, it does.
- 11 O [MR. MCMILLAN]: Is this the first time in the record of your
- 12 search where you found any reference to al Qaeda?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes, it is.
- 14 O [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your review of classified rules of engagement
- 15 identified nothing earlier mentioning al Qaeda explicitly?
- 16 A [MS. GASKINS]: Not up to the SECRET level. No.
- 17 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: As you look at this document, Ms. Gaskins,
- 18 are you able to determine the date on which this set of Rules of
- 19 Engagement for Operation Enduring Freedom was first issued?
- 20 A [MS. GASKINS]: The original Rules of Engagement are dated 5
- 21 October. This is based on the message traffic at the beginning of
- 22 this document. This is a serial 2. It's combining all previous
- 23 Rules of Engagement for Operation Enduring Freedom.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Is it 5 October or is it 6 October,
- 2 Ms. Gaskins, that the first Rule of Engagement for Operation Enduring
- 3 Freedom was published? Do you recall Ms. Gaskins--let me ask this
- 4 next question.
- 5 Do you recall previously mentioning to me that an execute--
- 6 a Strike Execute Order was apparent in the message traffic in this
- 7 set of rules of engagement?
- 8 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 9 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And what was the date of that strike execute
- 10 order?
- 11 A [MS. GASKINS]: The Strike Execute Order was dated October
- 12 5th, 2001. The first Rule of Engagement is dated October 6th.
- 13 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Now, is there also a reference to October 2,
- 14 2001 visible in that document?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes, there is.
- 16 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: And what occurred or what was ordered on
- 17 October 2, 2001?
- 18 A [MS. GASKINS]: On October 2nd, there's a Rules of Engagement
- 19 for noncombatant evacuation operations.
- 20 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: So the Authorization for the Use of Military
- 21 Force against those responsible for the September 11th attacks is
- 22 September 18th. Is that correct?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.

- 1 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: The order to evacuate civilians from
- 2 Afghanistan was October 2nd, 2001?
- 3 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 4 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: A Strike Execute Order was issued October 5,
- 5 2001?
- 6 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 7 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: The Rule of Engagement that expressly
- 8 mentioned al Qaeda and authorized status based strikes against al
- 9 Qaeda is dated October 6, 2001?
- 10 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes, it is.
- 11 O [MR. MCMILLAN]: And the President announced to the Nation in
- 12 an address from the White House on October 7th that strikes had
- 13 begun. Is that correct?
- 14 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 15 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Thank you, Ms. Gaskins.
- I have no further questions.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good.
- 18 Bailiff, would you return those two SECRET documents to Mr.
- 19 McMillan, please; unless the witness will need them.
- 20 [The bailiff did as directed.]
- 21 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Good morning, Ms. Gaskins.
- WIT [MS. GASKINS]: Good morning.

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 2 Questions by the civilian trial counsel:
- 3 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Can you briefly describe how you went about
- 4 conducting your search regarding armed conflict?
- 5 A [MS. GASKINS]: I originally did an unclassified search,
- 6 obviously, open sourced, and academic data bases as well as journal
- 7 data bases. And then I went to the SIPRNET, which is the military's
- 8 SECRET level, and used various search engines and also data bases
- 9 that can find message traffic and documents classified at the SECRET
- 10 level and below.
- 11 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: What exactly were you looking for? What kind
- 12 of information were you looking for during your search?
- 13 A [MS. GASKINS]: I was looking for rules of engagement that
- 14 mentioned al Qaeda.
- 15 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: So your entire search was limited to rules of
- 16 engagement?
- 17 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 18 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Did you just search for al Qaeda? Or did you
- 19 also search for Usama bin Laden?
- 20 A [MS. GASKINS]: I searched for both. Both are mentioned in
- 21 the rules of engagement.

22

- 1 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: So, just so we're clear. All you were looking
- 2 for were rules of engagement. You weren't looking for any other
- 3 public statements by any public officials regarding the United
- 4 States' response to anything that al Qaeda has done?
- 5 A [MS. GASKINS]: That was my original search. That was only in
- 6 open source.
- 7 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Were you aware of the bombing in Aden, Yemen,
- 8 when our soldiers, who were en route to Somalia back in 1992, were
- 9 intentionally targeted by al Qaeda operatives?
- 10 A [MS. GASKINS]: I'm aware of that. Yes
- 11 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Did you find that significant in regard to
- 12 your search on whether an armed conflict existed?
- 13 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes. I searched documents back to the late
- 14 1980s, but have not seen at the SECRET level or below any documents
- 15 that contained al Qaeda in their rules of engagement.
- Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Well, isn't it true that the United States
- 17 wasn't aware that Usama bin Laden's organization was even called al
- 18 Qaeda until roughly 1996?
- 19 A [MS. GASKINS]: That's correct.
- Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Did you look at also the bombing in Riyadh,
- 21 Saudi Arabia?
- 22 A [MS. GASKINS]: No, I did not.

- 1 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: In your search, did you find Usama bin Laden's
- 2 1996 declaration of war?
- 3 A [MS. GASKINS]: No, I did not.
- 4 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Have you read that document before? Are you
- 5 familiar with that document?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: No, I'm not.
- 7 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: How about the 1998 fatwa, where he declared
- 8 that civilians were legitimate targets in his war and that they could
- 9 be killed anywhere in the world, wherever they could be found?
- 10 A [MS. GASKINS]: It's my understanding that that's correct
- 11 based on the embassy bombings that took place that year.
- 12 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: And that was in fact done prior to the embassy
- 13 bombings. Right?
- 14 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 15 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: You would agree that is significant in
- 16 determining whether or not there was a period of armed conflict if
- 17 our enemies declared war against us. Correct?
- 18 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Objection, Your Honor. This calls for a
- 19 legal conclusion that is well beyond the scope of direct.
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Sustained.
- Q [MR. TRIVETT]: You're familiar with the 1998 attacks on the
- 22 U.S. embassies you just referenced. Correct?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.

- 1 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: And there's no Rule of Engagement involved in
- 2 how the United States might respond. Correct? That you found?
- 3 A [MS. GASKINS]: You're looking for specific rules of
- 4 engagement to counter those kinds of attacks?
- 5 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Correct.
- A [MS. GASKINS]: I didn't see them at the SECRET level or
- 7 below. No.
- 8 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: But in fact, we did respond militarily. The
- 9 United States responded militarily against Usama bin Laden in 1998.
- 10 Correct?
- 11 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 12 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Do you know how we responded?
- 13 A [MS. GASKINS]: They launched cruise missiles off a Navy ship
- 14 toward a training camp, I believe, in Afghanistan.
- 15 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: In looking at your open source search, did you
- 16 find a statement that former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright
- 17 made to the 9/11 Commission regarding the Clinton administration's
- 18 response to the East Africa embassy bombings?
- 19 A [MS. GASKINS]: No, I did not.
- 20 [END OF PAGE]

22

- 1 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Are you familiar with the fact that after the
- 2 bombings, not only did we respond with Tomahawk missiles, but that
- 3 President Clinton ordered submarines to stay at launch depth for
- 4 months afterwards in the event we got actionable intelligence so that
- 5 we could target and presumably kill Usama bin Laden if we knew his
- 6 whereabouts?
- 7 A [MS. GASKINS]: It's my understanding that actionable
- 8 intelligence collection does not constitute a state of armed
- 9 conflict.
- 10 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, at this point the witness has just
- 11 given an opinion on a legal conclusion regarding armed conflict that
- 12 I think has opened the door to me asking the question that I asked
- 13 before.
- 14 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: It remains beyond the scope of direct, Your
- 15 Honor.
- 16 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I want the members—the members will be
- 17 called upon to decide when and whether a period of armed conflict
- 18 began. So let's ask the witness questions about facts that they can
- 19 testify to, and let the members make that conclusion.
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 21 [END OF PAGE]

- 1 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: So there were no rules of engagement that you
- 2 found despite the fact that we did respond militarily in 1998.
- 3 Correct?
- 4 A [MS. GASKINS]: I did not find them at the SECRET level or
- 5 below.
- 6 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: You're familiar with the attack on the USS
- 7 Cole that killed 17 sailors?
- 8 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 9 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Did you find any Rule of Engagement
- 10 authorizing our response to that attack?
- 11 A [MS. GASKINS]: Not at the SECRET level or below.
- 12 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Do you believe we were authorized to respond
- 13 had we had actionable intelligence on where Usama bin Laden was?
- 14 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Objection, Your Honor.
- This calls for speculation. Again, it's beyond the scope.
- 16 It calls for an opinion----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: ----well, ask her if she knows, not whether
- 18 she believes, because if she knows, she can answer. And if she
- 19 doesn't know, that will be her answer to it.
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 21 [END OF PAGE]

- 1 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Do you know if we were authorized under the
- 2 laws of war to respond to the attack on the USS Cole in October of
- 3 2000?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: I haven't seen any documents that reference a
- 5 response, so I don't.
- 6 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Are you aware of the attacks on 11 September
- 7 2001 which killed 2,973 Americans?
- 8 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 9 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: When was the first time that you saw a Rule of
- 10 Engagement authorizing our response to that?
- 11 A [MS. GASKINS]: The first Rule of Engagement I saw was dated 6
- 12 October 2001.
- 13 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Do you know if we were authorized to respond
- 14 militarily immediately had we known where our proper target package
- 15 was after the attacks on 11 September 2001.
- 16 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, this is the same question.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: This is the same problem. We're not asking
- 18 her to be an expert in the law of armed conflict. We're just asking
- 19 about what documents she found and what they reflect.
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: I will move on, sir.
- 21 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: What was the date of the President's statement
- 22 to the Nation?
- 23 A [MS. GASKINS]: October 7th, 2001.

- 1 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Isn't it true that the President also made not
- 2 only another public statement, but actually a military order on 13
- 3 November 2001?
- A [MS. GASKINS]: I couldn't say.
- 5 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: So in all of your searches of all of the
- 6 public statements of officials near or around September 11, 2001, you
- 7 weren't aware that the President gave an order that would allow for
- 8 the detention and trial of certain detainees?
- 9 A [MS. GASKINS]: I don't. I was looking for the nearest rules
- 10 of engagement that I could find.
- 11 Q [MR. TRIVETT]: Were you aware specifically that he had found
- 12 attacks on our diplomatic facilities, our U.S. warships, and the
- 13 attacks of September 11th, to have given rise to an armed conflict to
- 14 which the laws of war would apply?
- 15 A [MS. GASKINS]: I believe that goes beyond my scope of whether
- 16 a rise of armed conflict dictates an armed conflict.
- 17 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Thank you, Ms. Gaskins.
- No further questions.
- 19 [END OF PAGE]

21

22

1 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

- 2 Questions by the civilian defense counsel:
- 3 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Just one question on redirect, Ms. Gaskins.
- 4 Do you have an understanding as to why the defense felt it necessary
- 5 to ask you to search for rules of engagement mentioning al Qaeda?
- 6 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 7 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Could you explain what that was?
- 8 A [MS. GASKINS]: It was important to search for rules of
- 9 engagement because rules of engagement named specifically a targeted
- 10 enemy.
- 11 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Do you have an understanding as to whether
- 12 the defense had requested the prosecution to produce rules of
- 13 engagement mentioning al Qaeda?
- 14 A [MS. GASKINS]: Yes.
- 15 Q [MR. MCMILLAN]: Do you know what the response from the
- 16 prosecution was to that discovery request?
- 17 A [MS. GASKINS]: The response to that discovery request was any
- 18 rules of engagement that mentioned al Qaeda would be publicly
- 19 available.
- 20 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Thank you.
- No further questions.
- 22 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: No further questions, sir.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Members of the court do you have any
- 2 questions for Ms. Gaskins? I think it seems like no.
- Thank you very much, ma'am, for your testimony. You are
- 4 excused from the courtroom.
- 5 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: Good morning, Your Honor.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Good morning.
- 7 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: The defense has two witnesses left, both
- 8 of whom we expect to complete before the morning recess, and I
- 9 propose to try to accomplish that right now.
- 10 As of this morning, neither of these witnesses is available
- 11 to testify in court. And what I would like to do is to lay out the
- 12 foundation for the admission of written answers to questions. And I
- 13 would like to do that -- I will do that to the best of my ability
- 14 without commenting on the substance of the evidence. But I think it
- 15 will save time, instead of following the government security officer,
- 16 to indicate.
- With your permission, I would like to have handed to both
- 18 the clerk and Your Honor a set of the exhibits that I will be going
- 19 through. And they will be marked--I hope they will be marked as my
- 20 request for identification I believe starting at Exhibit Delta-Delta
- 21 for identification. And I would ask that the first document set be
- 22 marked at this time for identification as to Defense Exhibit
- 23 Delta-Delta.

- 1 Your Honor, this is a 13-page type-written document
- 2 entitled Questions for Detainees. It is in English; it is undated.
- 3 I will represent to the Court that it was prepared in February 2008,
- 4 following the Court's 13 February order. It was transmitted to the
- 5 Government on 3 March. It was transmitted again on 18 March
- 6 following an additional ruling of the Court dated 14 March. It was
- 7 cleared for transmission to certain inhabitants at Guantanamo.
- 8 On 27 March it's delivered from Washington, D.C. from the government
- 9 security officer to Guantanamo. We were informed that the week of 31
- 10 March this was delivered to detainee Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, also
- 11 known as KSM.
- 12 At this time, I would ask that the second exhibit in the
- 13 group be marked as--Echo-Echo?
- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay, I'm sorry. Now, Delta-Delta is the
- 15 English questions? The Arabic version of the English questions?
- 16 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: Precisely.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: And the first set of responses from KSM is
- 18 Echo-Echo?
- 19 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: To be clear, the document in Arabic is
- 20 Echo-Echo.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I'm sorry.
- 22 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: It's the second stapled document in the
- 23 group.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Oh, staples.
- 2 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: Sorry. I think if Your Honor would remove
- 3 the big paper clip that might facilitate following the presentation.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I'm with you.
- 5 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: It is our understanding that the Arabic
- 6 version also was cleared by the government security officer and
- 7 delivered to the detainee KSM sometime during the week of 31 March.
- 8 I would ask that the third stapled document in the package be marked
- 9 as I believe Foxtrot-Foxtrot. How am I doing? Okay.
- 10 Your Honor, this is what we understand to be the English
- 11 type-written four-page answers provided by KSM, submitted to the
- 12 government security officer for clearance, redactions made where
- 13 indicated by that entity or person, and returned to us in the format
- 14 you have in front of you, on 30 April 2008.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good.
- 16 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: Your Honor, the last--not the last, but
- 17 the fourth stapled document in the package is a 16-page document. I
- 18 will tell you that this is simply an integrated set of the questions
- 19 in English, Exhibit Delta-Delta, and KSM's answers in the English
- 20 which is Foxtrot-Foxtrot. I would call them the integrated answers
- 21 and questions for KSM.
- I would ask that the next document in order be marked for
- 23 identification at this time as Defense Exhibit Golf-Golf.

- 1 Needless to say, if one of my colleagues wanted to play a
- 2 trick on me, I could really embarrass myself with these. But I think
- 3 so far I have been given accurate, complete, and appropriate
- 4 information that checks out.
- 5 Golf-Golf, Your Honor, is--let me say this. That the same
- 6 first two documents, Delta-Delta and Echo-Echo, also were sent to
- 7 Detainee , Walid bin Attash. The document that you have before
- 8 you marked for identification as Golf-Golf--excuse me--as Hotel-Hotel
- 9 would be the typewritten answers in English, which we understand were
- 10 received from that individual sometime I believe in June, and
- 11 returned to us also in June. I can give you the precise dates if you
- 12 need them.
- 13 The last exhibit in order, which I would ask be marked for
- 14 identification only at this time, would be Defense Exhibit
- 15 India-India. It is, Your Honor, an integrated set of the questions
- 16 for detainees, which is also Exhibit Delta-Delta, and Mr. bin
- 17 Attash's written answers which were transmitted to us. I see I have
- 18 the date there 1 July 2008, not June. And so there, that would be an
- 19 integrated combination of Delta-Delta and Hotel-Hotel, the integrated
- 20 answers being marked for identification only as India-India.
- I'm prepared to make representations regarding
- 22 unavailability of the witness. I think I can do it also without
- 23 commenting on the evidence.

- 1 We have been in contact with detailed counsel for each of
- 2 those individuals. It's our understanding that, with regard to
- 3 Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, he is intending to invoke self-incrimination
- 4 rights and not appear.
- 5 The arrangements were made for the first time to be able to
- 6 visit with him individually. Lieutenant Commander Mizer was cleared
- 7 for a visit on Sunday, July 20. Mr. Mohammed had sent word that he
- 8 would not be available, in his view, would not meet with Lieutenant
- 9 Commander Mizer, and would not voluntarily appear in court. He is
- 10 aware that the written answers are available as a substitute.
- 11 Mr. bin Attash, his counsel, both--I will also say, no
- 12 surprise, both individuals have been charged with crimes. I won't go
- 13 into the details.
- Mr. bin Attash we are told through counsel would meet with
- 15 Lieutenant Commander Mizer. Arrangements were made for the first
- 16 time for Lieutenant Commander Mizer, who has the appropriate security
- 17 clearance, to meet with Mr. bin Attash, and he did so 20 July,
- 18 Sunday, the day before trial. I will advise the Court that Mr. bin
- 19 Attash expressed that he would consider coming here and testifying,
- 20 but he wanted to think about it. He wanted to pray about it over the
- 21 weekend.
- 22 Lieutenant Commander Mizer was permitted to meet with him
- 23 again I believe on Sunday, July 27, at which time Mr. bin Attash

- 1 effectively sent his regards to the Court and said that he would not
- 2 be coming voluntarily in light of the written answers.
- It is our position, again without commenting on any
- 4 substance, that under the Rules for Military Commission 703, the
- 5 written answers are appropriate given the unavailability of the
- 6 witness at this time. We would offer them both under the Court's
- 7 previous orders as in effect written answers to written questions
- 8 permitted by rule 702(c) and (g).
- 9 As the Court may be aware, we gave notice on July 10 under
- 10 the hearsay provision, which is rule, I believe it's 803. We believe
- 11 that, given the invocation of whatever privileges attach under
- 12 Military Commission Rule of Evidence 301 and the Fifth Amendment, the
- 13 witness is unavailable. And in light of objections to trial
- 14 testimony based on national security, we think that the written
- 15 answers are probative under Evidence Rule 401, admissible under rule
- 16 402, not classified under rule 505, competent under rule 601, based
- 17 on personal knowledge on their face based on rule 602. And given the
- 18 unavailability of the witness under Military Rules of Evidence as I
- 19 understand them, under the Manual For Courts-Martial, these witnesses
- 20 either will--either should be excused in this Court's discretion
- 21 based on the assertion of a privilege under 804(a)(1), the refusal to
- 22 testify under (a)(2), or unavailability under (a)(5) of rule 804,

- 1 and, as I understand it, under Article 49(b)(2) of the Manual For
- 2 Courts-Martial.
- We also believe it is admissible under the hearsay
- 4 exception as a statement against interest under 804(a)(b)(3). That
- 5 would be A Bravo 3. We believe it is a statement against interest.
- 6 Again, I don't intend to comment on the evidence based on that the
- 7 declarant's penal interests would be so contrary to a reasonable
- 8 person's understanding that the statements should be considered to
- 9 have probative value and be reliable evidence.
- I am prepared to offer additional discussion of the basis
- 11 for the offer, but I would suggest that what I've said so far should
- 12 be sufficient to permit counsel for the government to respond if they
- 13 wish and for the Court to consider it.
- 14 At this time, the defense offers into evidence Exhibits
- 15 Delta-Delta, Echo-Echo, Foxtrot-Foxtrot, Golf-Golf, Hotel-Hotel, and
- 16 India-India; and, if admitted into evidence, would ask that the
- 17 exhibits be passed among the members at this time.
- What I would propose there, just so you know what's coming,
- 19 is that the originals would stay in the clerk's possession; we would
- 20 make copies so that one set need not be passed seriatim, and that
- 21 those courtesy copies would be collected after members have an
- 22 opportunity to review in court the written answers as much or as
- 23 little as they wish. And the only documents that would go into the

- 1 deliberations would be those, the one set of originals that are
- 2 admitted into evidence, if admitted. The courtesy copies would be
- 3 collected at the time that the members are excused from the
- 4 courtroom.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very well. Thank you for your proffer.
- 6 Does the government object to the introduction of these
- 7 exhibits?
- 8 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, can we have five minutes to confer
- 9 amongst each other prior to giving you our objection, if any?
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Sure. Why don't we take a recess?
- 11 [The military commission recessed at 0927, 1 August 2008.]
- 12 [The R.M.C. 803 session was called to order at 0941, 1 August 2008.
- 13 All parties present when the commission recessed were once again
- 14 present. The members were absent.]
- 15 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order.
- 16 Is there government objection to these last six exhibits
- 17 from the defense?
- 18 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, can we set forth our objection in front
- 19 of the members?
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: No. I don't think you need to. I mean, I'm
- 21 going to rule on it. They don't need to hear it. Do they?
- 22 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Well, we think it's important that they hear
- 23 it, just based on certain representations that were made by defense

- 1 counsel that the prosecution doesn't necessarily agree with, although
- 2 we don't think it was an intentional misrepresentation.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. We will call the members back into the
- 4 courtroom. They can hear this if you think it's important.
- 5 [The members entered the courtroom.]
- 6 [The R.M.C. 803 session terminated and the military commission
- 7 commenced at 0942, 1 August 2008.]
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you. Please be seated [all persons did
- 9 as directed]. The members have returned to the courtroom.
- 10 Trial counsel, what's the government's response to the
- 11 defense offer of these last six exhibits?
- 12 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, in responding to certain
- 13 representations from the defense counsel, it's the prosecution's
- 14 understanding, based on the fact that I'm one of the prosecutors in
- 15 the case in which Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and Walid bin Attash are
- 16 being charged with, they're involved with the 9/11 case, is that they
- 17 represent themselves. They've made it very clear on the record that
- 18 they in fact represent themselves. Any representations by anyone as
- 19 their stand-by counsel, whether it be Captain Prescott Prince or Mr.
- 20 Ed McMahon, both of which are on their team, would not satisfy any
- 21 requirement from the accuseds themselves that they are in fact
- 22 unavailable or were unwilling to testify. So we just wanted to
- 23 clarify that aspect of it.

- 1 We in no way think that the defense intentionally
- 2 misrepresented that. But based on the facts as we know them, we
- 3 wanted the record very clear that that is our understanding.
- 4 Furthermore, the prosecution--we want the record to state very
- 5 clearly that the prosecution is in no way at this time preventing
- 6 them from coming to testify. We have in fact requested as an
- 7 alternative to their testimony that they be given a videotaped
- 8 deposition in which both defense and prosecution would be able to
- 9 question and cross-examine them and their answers that are based in
- 10 these records. But that being said, sir, we have no objection to--we
- 11 have no objection to them.
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 13 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: We just want it very clear for the record
- 14 that that's the position of the U.S. Government.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I thought you were going to make me
- 16 make a hard decision here. No objection. And I don't think Mr.
- 17 Schneider intended to misrepresent anything. Did you? It's been a
- 18 long road to try to see whether these witnesses could be made
- 19 available or would come.
- 20 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: I can clarify one thing. It's not an
- 21 attempt to argue; it's actually an attempt to educate.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Me?
- 23 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: No.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Or Mr. Trivett?
- 2 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: You're well aware, sir. Mr. Trivett.
- 3 Just to be clear, the counsels who were detailed to represent those
- 4 two individuals, or who were otherwise engaged, communicated to us
- 5 that they felt they were still in a position to make whatever
- 6 representation they told us.
- 7 Second, Mr. bin Attash communicated his position in person,
- 8 through a translator while he was incarcerated, to Lieutenant
- 9 Commander Mizer. KSM sent a handwritten note translated. So this
- 10 isn't just--well, that's what happened.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- Well, members, you have been treated to representations by
- 13 both counsel, and there is no objection from the government to these
- 14 six exhibits. And, therefore, without objection, but noting the
- 15 positions of both parties, I will admit Defense Exhibits Delta-Delta
- 16 through India-India. And you may--bailiff, if you will give copies
- 17 to each of the members.
- 18 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: Again, we would ask that the members each
- 19 be given a courtesy copy at this time to review as they sit in court.
- 20 And when sufficient time, in Your Honor's discretion, has transpired
- 21 we would propose that we would collect the courtesy copies and that
- 22 they would then have available to them the original admitted into
- 23 evidence along with all the other evidence admitted.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 2 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: At this point, I will sit down, unless you
- 3 have any questions for me.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: No. Well, my only question is kind of for
- 5 the defense team. Are there other witnesses that you intend to call
- 6 now?
- 7 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: No. We would rest at this time. And we
- 8 would like to give the members sufficient time to review the last six
- 9 exhibits admitted, at the completion of which the defense rests its
- 10 case.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, let me ask the government to
- 12 think, while the members are reading, about whether they have
- 13 evidence in rebuttal that they would like to offer.
- 14 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: I made a mistake. I made six copies, and
- 15 we have seven members.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Oh, here. You can----
- 17 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: Is that okay?
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Here's one more.
- 19 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: My apologies.
- 20 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: Your Honor, may we have a few minutes?
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: There was talk of a video teleconference
- 22 witness. Did you choose not to call that witness, or is there a time

- 1 issue that we need to resolve so that you can still call that
- 2 witness?
- 3 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: No. She will not be called by the defense,
- 4 Your Honor.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good. Okay. So you're prepared to rest
- 6 then and haven't been prejudiced by the timing of the court sessions.
- 7 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: No. We made a decision in light of the
- 8 evidence in the case not to call.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Fair enough. Very good. Thank you, sir.
- 10 [The members read and examined DE DD through II.]
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Do any of the members need additional time to
- 12 review this? [The members nodded in response] Okay.
- 13 [The members continued reading and examining DE DD through II.]
- Okay, members, it looks like everyone has had sufficient
- 15 time to read those exhibits.
- 16 Bailiff, if you will collect them, please; and return them
- 17 to the defense. [The bailiff did as directed.]
- 18 A copy or I should say the original of these documents will
- 19 be provided to you when you retire to deliberate with all the other
- 20 evidence that has been admitted, all the other documents and
- 21 photographs and things that have been admitted. And you will be able
- 22 to consult them along with all the other evidence during your
- 23 deliberations.

- 1 Does this represent the end of the defense case then?
- 2 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: It does, Your Honor.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good. Thank you. Does the government
- 4 have any evidence to offer in rebuttal?
- 5 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, we have one document we may need to
- 6 litigate its admissibility outside the presence of the members.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: We do?
- 8 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I concur, Your Honor.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, members, if you will step into
- 10 the deliberation room, we will take up the final piece of evidence.
- 11 BAILIFF: All rise.
- 12 [All persons did as directed, and the members withdrew from the
- 13 courtroom.]
- 14 [The military commission recessed terminated and the R.M.C. 803
- 15 session commenced at 1017, 1 August 2008.]
- 16 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. The members have withdrawn from the
- 17 courtroom. Please be seated. [All persons did as directed.]
- What is the final document?
- 19 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, it's the only document the prosecution
- 20 would ask to be admitted in its rebuttal case. It's a statement of
- 21 former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright. She made it on
- 22 March 23, 2004 in one of the public hearings. It's described as
- 23 testimony before the Commission, but it is a prepared written

- 1 statement. To my knowledge, it's not in the final 9/11 Commission
- 2 Report, but it can be found on the official 9/11 Commission Web Site
- 3 and as part of the public record.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Do you have a copy of it to mark? This is
- 5 prosecution exhibit, what?
- 6 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: It's the next one in order, sir.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: 146. Prosecution 146 is marked for
- 8 identification. Have you shown this to the defense?
- 9 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Not yet, sir.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Do you know your objection without looking at
- 11 the document?
- 12 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I'm handling it, sir.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 14 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Yes, Your Honor, I do. I object on the basis
- 15 of hearsay. Although it's within a public record, it's not a
- 16 statement of a public official in that Madeleine Albright was quite
- 17 clear at the time she held no public capacity in her position. So I
- 18 object under hearsay, and we were not provided notice for the hearsay
- 19 catch-all rule and, therefore, object to its admissibility. However,
- 20 proffer, that if it is admitted then there are significant portions
- 21 of the 9/11 Report, statements of the President, et cetera, regarding
- 22 the issue of when the war begin that we will want to put into
- 23 evidence.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, I see a very long statement.
- 2 They are numbered. There are 23 pages.
- 3 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: What is this being offered for?
- 5 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Specifically, sir, through the defense case
- 6 in chief, through Professor Geoffrey Corn and on a lesser extent
- 7 Ms. Gaskins' testimony that there's some indication that, at least
- 8 according to Professor Corn specifically, that although al Qaeda
- 9 attacked the embassies, if I'm--I'm going to try to summarize his
- 10 testimony the best I can. If they attacked the embassies, that
- 11 wasn't necessarily an indication of an armed conflict, although once
- 12 we fired our missiles back, he said that it would. He then opined
- 13 that the armed conflict would then be over.
- We believe that he misrepresented--not intentionally, but
- 15 was probably not competent to testify in regard to the United States'
- 16 response following the missile strikes of 21 August 1998.
- 17 Former Secretary Albright makes very clear all of the
- 18 administration's reactions to that missile strike or to the bombing
- 19 of the embassies specifically in regard to putting submarines at
- 20 launch depth, deploying them, trying to actively target Usama bin
- 21 Laden, potentially putting special forces in there to either kill or
- 22 capture him, and that they had looked at this as both a dual law
- 23 enforcement and military role.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 2 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: And I think one of the quotes that she gave
- 3 specifically was: After all, when we fired missiles, it wasn't for
- 4 the purpose of serving legal papers.
- 5 That's in there, and we think it's an important part for
- 6 the jury to understand, because we do believe at this point the
- 7 members have a misconception as to how we reacted; that after we hit
- 8 the button and fired the missiles; that is all we did, and we weren't
- 9 actively targeting or involved in an armed conflict anymore. We
- 10 think that's a misrepresentation of an historical fact. I don't
- 11 think that there's any reason to believe that there's anything in
- 12 that statement that's unreliable. It's a former Secretary of State.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: So it's offered to prove the truth of the
- 14 matter asserted.
- 15 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 16 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: That we did put missiles--submarines at
- 17 launch depth, and positioned military forces, whatever she says.
- 18 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Absolutely, sir.
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. The objection is hearsay.
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: What's your response?
- 22 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Our response specifically is there's no way
- 23 that the prosecution can anticipate every issue that the defense puts

- 1 in for its rebuttal case. Had we known specifically that Professor
- 2 Corn was going to testify regarding the armed conflict----
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I mean this is a plea for mercy. The
- 4 objection is hearsay, and I'm asking, what hearsay objection do you
- 5 want me to find applicable here?
- 6 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: I'm sorry; I misunderstood your question,
- 7 sir. It's an official public document. Whether she was the
- 8 Secretary of State at the time or not, it is within the archives of
- 9 the 9/11 Commission Report Web site. It was a public hearing in
- 10 which they took testimony from several different people, to include
- 11 the former Secretary of Defense. As a public document, it would fall
- 12 under the public documents exception and it would be admitted into
- 13 evidence as such, not being hearsay, or at least being an exception
- 14 to the hearsay rule.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Let's look at the rule for public
- 16 documents then.
- Okay. Your position is Rule 803(8), public records and
- 18 reports. Is that right? Is the 9/11 Commission then the source of
- 19 this document?
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. The 9/11 Commission itself. My
- 21 understanding is that that statement is not within the 9/11 Report,
- 22 but that they took testimony and evidence and considered other things
- 23 in drafting it.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Is the 9/11 Commission a public office or
- 2 agency?
- 3 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. It's a bipartisan committee
- 4 authorized by Congress and the President.
- 5 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I would like to speak to this, Your Honor, in
- 6 that I think it's extremely significant that it's not within the 9/11
- 7 Report. They took testimony, they took parts, and they decided what
- 8 to put in the report. That's the report of the agency, not
- 9 everything that they considered, not statements made by persons, et
- 10 cetera. And it is noteworthy here that when Madeleine Albright made
- 11 that statement, she was in her private capacity. So she would not
- 12 fall within it in that it was not included into the report, which is
- 13 I believe my co-counsel said is some thousand and some pages, but
- 14 they did not include her statement.
- So, it is not a report of the government agency. And what
- 16 the government tries to do is bootstrap it because it was presented
- 17 to them and it is not part of their official reports.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, the exception applies to
- 19 records, reports, statements, or data compilations in any form of
- 20 public offices or agencies setting forth the activities of the office
- 21 or agency, or matters observed pursuant to duty imposed by law.
- Okay. Final arguments?

- 1 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: The prosecution would just ask that it be
- 2 put into evidence and shown to the members.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Mr. Swift?
- 4 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: And, again, holding part that the exception
- 5 applied--would apply to the report itself. It doesn't reply to all
- 6 the activities. We get to an exception that breaks the rule that
- 7 says that we will now admit statements made by persons to that
- 8 activity. There's no showing that it was part of the official
- 9 testimony other than it was provided, was not put into the records
- 10 themselves, and, therefore, is not part of the official record.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I'll sustain the objection.
- 12 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I will give Prosecution Exhibit 146 for
- 14 identification to the court reporter as an exhibit offered but not
- 15 admitted.
- 16 Anything else for the government?
- 17 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: The prosecution rests its case, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you, sir. Let's call the members back
- 19 into the courtroom.
- 20 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Sir, may we take up one issue with respect to
- 21 argument?
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Sure.
- DC [LCDR MIZER]: Just very briefly.

- 1 Your Honor, yesterday I think it was raised during the
- 2 cross-examination of our two principal witnesses that Mr. Hamdan had
- 3 not been helpful before arriving at Bagram Air Base on 28 December
- 4 2001. And we would ask the government not be permitted to make this
- 5 argument in front of the members, aside from the questions that
- 6 they've already asked, given the fact that they haven't told us where
- 7 Mr. Hamdan was between 2 December and 28 December of 2001. We still
- 8 have no idea now that we've heard all the evidence where Mr. Hamdan
- 9 was.
- 10 We have not objected to them commenting on Mr. Hamdan's
- 11 election to remain silent or an election to decline to provide
- 12 information because, as we understand it, the Fifth Amendment, that
- 13 right does not apply to Mr. Hamdan in his present situation. But we
- 14 think it's unfair to allow the government to argue that he was not
- 15 cooperating and we have no idea what Mr. Hamdan was doing during that
- 16 roughly 30-day period.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Does the government intend to make that
- 18 argument?
- 19 TC [LCDR STONE]: The government will make the argument with
- 20 regards to Sergeant Major A, the capture video. And
- 21 between other periods of time, it's not argued nor will we be
- 22 advancing the arguments regarding it. So I don't see where we really
- 23 have an issue.

- 1 DC [LCDR MIZER]: And, Your Honor, we have no issue with the
- 2 Takteh-Pol video and the government arguing what took place in
- 3 Takteh-Pol. What I'm concerned about is he didn't give you
- 4 actionable intelligence until such and such date. But we don't know
- 5 what happened.
- 6 TC [LCDR STONE]: Well, no. They have been provided, all
- 7 statements by the accused, sir.
- 8 DC [LCDR MIZER]: No, that's not true.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I think that's a fair request from the
- 10 defense. There was a black hole, and I will sustain that objection,
- 11 I guess, to the extent that it's an objection, arguing that he didn't
- 12 provide any helpful data when we don't know where he was or what he
- 13 provided.
- 14 TC [LCDR STONE]: Well, we did file a 505 motion in which the
- 15 statements by the accused that were taken were provided to the
- 16 defense.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: All right. Maybe I don't remember that.
- DC [LCDR MIZER]: Your Honor, we haven't seen the documents.
- 19 We've seen unclassified summaries.
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. You guys remind each other of what
- 21 you've shown each other over the weekend, and we can take this up
- 22 Monday morning when we discuss finally on the record the instructions

- 1 before we have closing argument. If there's still an issue, I will
- 2 resolve it then.
- 3 TC [LDCR STONE]: Your Honor, do you contemplate a hearing to
- 4 argue instructions? Or are you----
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Yes. I was planning to ask the members to
- 6 come back 9:00 or 9:30 on Monday morning. We could resume at 8:30.
- 7 And I plan to meet with you over the weekend, actually, as well to
- 8 look at the instructions in draft form and informally work out
- 9 differences. Sound fair enough?
- 10 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Yes, Your Honor.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: 9:30 Monday morning for them, 8:30 for us?
- 12 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Yes, sir.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Good. Why don't you call the members
- 14 back in then?
- 15 [The R.M.C. 803 session terminated and the military commission
- 16 commenced at 1027, 1 August 2008.]
- 17 BAILIFF: All rise. [All persons did as directed, and the
- 18 members entered the courtroom.]
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you. Please be seated. [All persons
- 20 did as directed.]
- 21 Members of the court, that completes the presentation of
- 22 the evidence from both sides in this case. What we initially

- 1 expected would take three weeks has taken two. So, we are a week
- 2 ahead of where we thought we would be.
- 3 At this point, I will release you for the weekend. It will
- 4 take me several hours to write the instructions that I will give you
- 5 on Monday morning with respect to the law that you must apply in this
- 6 case. You won't need to take notes when I read those instructions,
- 7 but it will probably take me an hour to read them, and then I will
- 8 give you a copy to take with you into your deliberations.
- 9 Juror number 13, you were the alternate juror as I recall.
- 10 At this point, you are excused from further participation in this
- 11 case. If you want to catch the plane home tomorrow, it appears that
- 12 we will be able to reassemble on Monday morning with the six primary
- 13 jurors. We only need five to begin and complete deliberation, so at
- 14 this point I think we can safely say we won't require your further
- 15 services. If you don't have anything going back home and you want to
- 16 stick around Guantanamo for another week and see how this thing
- 17 shakes out, I'm not sending you home. I'm excusing you, if you would
- 18 like to go. But you won't be included in the deliberations because
- 19 you are an alternate and we won't need you. But I do thank you for
- 20 your attention and your participation during the last two weeks the
- 21 presentation of evidence.

- I would like to ask you to return to the courtroom at 9:30
- 2 Monday morning. Counsel and I will meet at 8:30 and we will try to
- 3 resolve all the final matters that might be pending.
- When you return at 9:30, I envision giving you my
- 5 instructions on the law, and I will invite counsel for both sides to
- 6 give their closing arguments. And that will probably take a couple
- 7 hours, maybe, until the lunch break. I envision you being able to
- 8 begin your deliberations on Monday afternoon. At that point, we will
- 9 wait until you are ready. You take as long as you want.
- Now, once again, since you're leaving for the weekend, I
- 11 would like to talk about the possibility that you might have SECRET
- 12 notes in your notebooks. If you're going to take those notes home
- 13 with you, please leave here whatever pages you've copied SECRET notes
- 14 on to. And if you want to leave all your notes here, they will be
- 15 secured by the court reporter.
- 16 I would ask you not to discuss the case amongst yourselves
- 17 or with anyone else until you have heard my instructions, you have
- 18 heard the arguments of counsel, and are in your deliberation room and
- 19 can deliberate together.
- 20 Are there any questions, Mr. President?
- 21 PRESIDENT: No, sir.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you very much. We will excuse the
- 23 members then until Monday morning at 9:30.

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    members withdrew from the courtroom.]
3
    [The military commission terminated and the R.M.C. 803 session
    commenced at 1033, 1 August 2008.]
4
5
         MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Please be seated. [All persons did as
6
    directed.]
7
              Okay. I will be working on the instructions for the
    members this weekend. And I will wait--I'm waiting for some
8
9
    documents from both sides so I can address the motion regarding Mr.
10
    Hamdan's confinement. And I propose tomorrow evening sometime that
11
    we get together and have a discussion of the instructions. I will
12
    try to get you a draft this evening or early in the morning to look
13
    over. Okay? So why don't you just--why don't we say tomorrow at
14
    1700 we will meet for discussion. Will that work? Okay. Court is
15
    in recess.
16
    [The R.M.C. 803 session recessed at 1034, 1 August 2008.]
17
                                 [END OF PAGE]
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BAILIFF: All rise. [All persons did as directed, and the

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- 1 [The military commission was called to order at 0838, 4 August 2008.
- 2 All parties present when the commission recessed were once again
- 3 present.]
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order. The light is
- 5 already flashing. Apparently I was getting too close to classified
- 6 information there and I needed to be reigned in a little bit.
- Okay. During the weekend, we did a great deal of work on
- 8 the instructions that I will give the members this morning, had a
- 9 long and detailed meeting on Saturday afternoon. Both parties
- 10 provided very helpful and well-researched proposed instructions and I
- 11 have given now both parties the proposed instruction I plan to give.
- 12 But nobody came by this morning with final corrections or comments---
- 13 -
- 14 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: ----so I guess we're pretty close, but are
- 16 there things you want to perhaps bring to my attention before we----
- 17 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir, there are.
- 18 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 19 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Specifically, the prosecution had concerns
- 20 about three of the instructions. The first one being the definition
- 21 for material support or resources.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.

- 1 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: It doesn't seem to be directly from the
- 2 manual and neglects to include personnel, which is obviously one of
- 3 the important----
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, that might have just been a
- 5 scrivener's error. Let's see. It's not directly from the manual?
- 6 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Correct, sir.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: What page are we on?
- 8 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Page 11, sir. But it might--it might show
- 9 up prior to that, as well. But it's in the definition of material
- 10 support and resources.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: All right. Well, that sounds like an error
- 12 that can easily be corrected. Okay. Good catch. I'll change that.
- 13 Maybe I just didn't get it all typed in there properly. Okay. What
- 14 else?
- 15 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: All right. In regard to the definition of
- 16 "in the context of and associated with armed conflict"----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 18 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: ----we believe that the definition that's
- 19 put forth primarily, you know, from the defense, conflates the
- 20 principles of direct engagement in hostilities with that of actions
- 21 taken in the context of and associated with armed conflict. We
- 22 believe that the second standard is a far broader standard that
- 23 doesn't require direct participation in the hostilities or even

- 1 geographic proximity to the hostilities. We think that it conflates
- 2 two different processes. We cite to Section 948a(A) of the Manual--
- 3 of the Military Commissions Act specifically, to show that Congress
- 4 clearly intended the two standards to be different.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I agree that they are different. The
- 6 question is: What instruction is correct to give to the members? And
- 7 the defense proposed something that I thought was pretty close and
- 8 that didn't have--948a?
- 9 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: There is not a definition here of that term.
- 11 What changes are you proposing to the draft instruction?
- 12 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: The prosecution's--the prosecution believes
- 13 that the members can look just at the term "in the context of and
- 14 associated with armed conflict." It doesn't have any specific terms
- 15 that have not already been defined for them, the "armed conflict"
- 16 being the only one that requires a definition or a legal definition.
- 17 They simply must make a determination that the accused's action was
- 18 part of a larger war effort as opposed to a direct participation in
- 19 the hostilities. Not every one of the accused's actions that he took
- 20 was necessarily part of the war effort.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 22 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: But they must just be able to determine that
- 23 the ones that we have alleged, in fact, are. So we would----

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: So you prefer that I give no instruction
- 2 other than that definition?
- 3 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Other than that--yes, sir.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Other than----
- 5 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Other than in the context of and associated
- 6 with an armed conflict, "armed conflict" having been defined earlier
- 7 in the instructions.
- 8 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, the defense would offer a
- 9 comment if appropriate or----
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh. Sure.
- 11 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, we think the instruction, as
- 12 set forth in your current iteration, is correct. That language was
- 13 purposefully chosen as an element of each of the offenses. That in
- 14 the context of and associated with were deliberately intended to be
- 15 criteria and were not wholly redundant and superfluous, and it's just
- 16 a standard doctrine of statutory construction not to render words
- 17 superfluous.
- 18 The authority that we cited to the Court in our proposed
- 19 instruction was drawn from other law of war tribunals, such as the
- 20 international criminal tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the Tadic
- 21 case and so forth, where there is authority set out in some of the
- 22 reported opinions lending--elaborating on what the nexus needs to be

- 1 between an act and an armed conflict, and we thought that we took a
- 2 fairly conservative approach that gave--that gave meaning to this.
- The--this does not set out the standard in 948a, which I
- 4 believe the prosecution is referring to the definition of unlawful
- 5 enemy combatant, which references purposefully and materially
- 6 supporting hostilities or engaged in hostilities. If anything, that
- 7 standard and that definition of unlawful combatant is a higher
- 8 standard that scholars recognize as direct engagement in hostilities.
- 9 This standard as set forth in your instruction we think is, you know,
- 10 it's appropriate as written for the reasons stated.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, I'm inclined to leave it in
- 12 there. I don't know that it's wrong. I certainly don't intend to
- 13 give an instruction that mimics the definition of unlawful combatant.
- 14 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: And certainly that's not what the government
- 15 is asking for, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 17 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: We simply--we cited to 948a to show that
- 18 there are two distinct different things. Not that you should cite to
- 19 948a, but the concern is that when we get into a lot of the specifics
- 20 of what they are supposed to or required to find, it very much
- 21 narrows the context of the accused's participation. We think that's
- 22 just an incorrect standard rule of law. If you look to what's cited
- 23 by the defense, one of the sources that they cite is Michael N.

- 1 Schmidt, "Humanitarian Law and Direct Participation in Hostilities."
- 2 That's one of the things that they cite.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I read that article over the weekend and I
- 4 believe that that was--that was--you're right. That's a good point.
- 5 That--that was discussing the concept of direct participation.
- 6 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: And the Prosecutor v. Tadic that they have
- 7 cited to specifically says they need to be satisfied that each of the
- 8 alleged acts was, in fact, closely related to the hostilities.
- 9 That's okay. That makes sense. We are comfortable with that.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: And I chose those words--uh-huh.
- 11 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: But we are not comfortable with the fact
- 12 that there has to be some type of geographic proximity to the armed
- 13 conflict itself. You know, clearly, someone sending war money and
- 14 material from the United States to Afghanistan would be engaging in
- 15 actions that were in the context of and associated with an armed
- 16 conflict if, in fact, they were aware that the money they were
- 17 sending were going to be helping al Qaeda in its war against America.
- 18 There would be no geographic proximity at all, necessarily.
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, the instruction says "conduct of the
- 20 accused that occurs at a distance from the area of the conflict can
- 21 still be in the context of and associated with armed conflict as long
- 22 as it was closely and substantially related to hostilities."
- 23 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Doesn't that give you what you want?
- 2 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: It does, but it seemingly contradicts
- 3 something earlier in the definition, sir.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 5 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Where it says that you may consider at a
- 6 place in which the armed conflict is under way. It seems to be at
- 7 odds with itself, the definition.
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 9 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Which is why we would request that that--
- 10 that the geographic proximity just be stricken completely because we
- 11 don't think it's required.
- 12 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: It appears earlier as a factor and then
- 13 it's qualified appropriately in your final sentence, Your Honor.
- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, I see what you're trying to point out.
- 15 It does seem to be internally inconsistent----
- 16 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: If the only two criteria are the phrase "at a
- 18 place in which armed conflict is under way" and the last sentence,
- 19 which suggests that it doesn't have to be at a place in which armed
- 20 conflict is under way. What I intended to do is list a number of
- 21 criteria like I had done for the definition of armed conflict itself.
- 22 That would help them determine whether it took place in the context
- 23 of an armed conflict. Okay. Let's see.

- 1 So the criteria I have drafted include whether the acts of
- 2 the accused occurred during the period of an armed conflict. That's
- 3 clearly required.
- 4 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. As defined above. "At the place in
- 6 which armed conflict is under way," you have a problem with that
- 7 language?
- 8 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Were performed while the accused acted on
- 10 behalf of or under the authority of a party to the armed conflict?
- 11 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: I don't think there's a concern in this case
- 12 about that.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Whether they constituted or were
- 14 closely and substantially related to hostilities occurring during the
- 15 armed conflict.
- 16 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: There was no problem with that either.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. So your only problem with this whole
- 18 sentence is "at a place in which armed conflict is under way."
- 19 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. Our first position would be that
- 20 we think they need no definitions other than the definition of armed
- 21 conflict to make the determination if it was in the context of and
- 22 associated with. But that being said, if you feel the need to give

- 1 them further instructions, those are the two instructions that we
- 2 would request be excised.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Two?
- 4 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Well, the two: the geographic proximity
- 5 issues within that definition.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, the second reference to geographic
- 7 proximity gives you the ability to argue that something that occurs
- 8 at a distance from the area of conflict can still be in the context
- 9 of. Isn't that what you want?
- 10 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Absolutely. We want the ability to argue
- 11 that. We feel we have the ability to argue that regardless of
- 12 whether or not that's in there.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 14 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: There's nothing incorrect about keeping that
- 15 in there, but two in there are----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I'll delete then the phrase "at a
- 17 place in which armed conflict is under way," because there is another
- 18 reference to the proximity to the armed conflict that allows both
- 19 sides to argue their positions. Okay. What's your third comment on
- 20 the instructions?
- 21 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Regarding the judicial notice of the Taliban
- 22 ----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.

- 1 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: ---and whether or not that's relevant or
- 2 required at this point based on the fact that, at least as of now,
- 3 the affirmative defense is not being instructed upon.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, okay. So you're saying if I don't give
- 5 the affirmative defense instruction that there's no need for judicial
- 6 notice?
- 7 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir, seemingly. Well, it's confusing
- 8 if it's not related to a prior case.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, I don't know. I think the defense
- 10 still needs the ability to argue several of their theories of the
- 11 case, including the possibility that Mr. Hamdan intended to deliver
- 12 the missiles to the Taliban, that they were a lawful fighting force,
- 13 and that therefore it wasn't an intent to support international
- 14 terrorism, which is driving missiles to the front. So I'm going to
- 15 leave that in there for whatever purposes it may serve, even if I
- 16 don't give the affirmative defense instruction. I think the defense
- 17 needs to have the ability to make that argument.
- 18 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Those are the three points raised by the
- 20 government?
- 21 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, you are absolutely right on the first
- 2 one. You got what you wanted on the second one and you lost on the
- 3 third one. I'd say that's batting pretty good. Okay?
- 4 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. Thank you, sir.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Defense, what are your comments on the
- 6 proposed instructions?
- 7 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, the defense also has three
- 8 points that it would like to make in way of objection to the current
- 9 iteration of the instructions. First, we would just like on the
- 10 record the position of the defense that the instruction on armed
- 11 conflict that the defense submitted we believe is the correct one.
- 12 Admittedly, the instruction that's contained in this iteration goes
- 13 some distance, but we believe that the more complete explanation is
- 14 as set forth in our own. We do understand the Court is attempting to
- 15 balance length of instruction versus other considerations. We are--
- 16 we are---
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I'm trying to make it simple enough for the
- 18 members to understand as well. Your proposed instruction on armed
- 19 conflict was two single-spaced pages.
- 20 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Our particular--that's correct, Your Honor.
- 21 And we think that it draws the necessary distinction. We understand
- 22 the Court's concern. We are particularly focused on the statement in
- 23 the instruction regarding statements of political leaders one way or

- 1 the other, which we think is not an appropriate consideration, but is
- 2 more likely to be the result of political propaganda and the
- 3 appropriate factors to see whether actual hostilities are under way.
- 4 We do want to just make that record.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, I appreciate all the work you went to.
- 6 Your proposed instructions on this point were very, very thorough and
- 7 supported by citations to international law scholars that I've read
- 8 and that I respect over the weekend.
- 9 Okay. So I see your very first opening phrase as it's
- 10 referenced to objective criteria rather than to policy statements or
- 11 political concerns.
- Well, I mean, in a way, this proposed instruction gives you
- 13 the ability to argue one of your central themes.
- 14 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: It does, your Honor.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Which is that, the rules of engagement
- 16 represent a statement by one of the parties that there was no
- 17 conflict.
- 18 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Absolutely correct, and for that reason,
- 19 we're not attempting to state that this is entirely incorrect. It's
- 20 --we would like to preserve on the record, however, the position that
- 21 we think the proposed instruction from the defense is the more
- 22 complete statement of the relevant considerations and focus

- 1 particularly on that one issue that I mentioned involving political
- 2 statements from leadership.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: So that's the rub then, is the political
- 4 statement? Clearly your proposed instruction is more complete than
- 5 mine, but I felt like two full pages that distinguish between
- 6 international and non-international armed conflict and et cetera was
- 7 just too much. Government response to an internal threat that was
- 8 more than the members needed. But let's look at the phrase that
- 9 particularly bothers you.
- 10 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: It appears about a little more than halfway
- 11 down the paragraph: "Statements of the leaders of both sides
- 12 indicating their perceptions regarding the existence of an armed
- 13 conflict, including the presence or absence of a declaration to that
- 14 effect." That is what we would regard as what's most troubling to
- 15 the defense about the instructions. We don't think that is a correct
- 16 ----
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You don't think those would be relevant to
- 18 determining whether or not there was an armed conflict in place?
- 19 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: They can be relevant in so far as they
- 20 indicate whether or not actual hostilities are under way, whether or
- 21 not they correctly state facts. But as standing alone, a statement
- 22 that we are at war when in fact we're not at war, I would be
- 23 concerned that the members might be misled or confused that a mere

- 1 statement that does not reflect an accurate assessment of the facts
- 2 could be deemed sufficient, so----
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, once again, this gives you the ability
- 4 to argue yet another of your themes. Okay. I think I'm going to
- 5 leave that in there as one of several criteria. And this paragraph,
- 6 to be honest, says the parties may argue the existence of other facts
- 7 and circumstances. So I want to give both sides the ability to argue
- 8 their theories without suggesting the correct answer to the members
- 9 and to give you the ability to suggest other factors. So I'll
- 10 overrule that objection.
- 11 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Okay. Thank you.
- 12 The second objection that we have, Your Honor, is the
- 13 defense believes that Mr. Hamdan is entitled to the affirmative
- 14 defense instruction on protected status under the Third Geneva
- 15 Convention. We understand that the defense has a burden of
- 16 introducing or pointing to some evidence in the record in order to
- 17 raise that affirmative defense. We believe that there is some
- 18 evidence that has come into this record over the past two weeks
- 19 sufficient to establish that Mr. Hamdan was a civilian, that he had
- 20 authorization to accompany armed forces although, like civilian
- 21 contractors in modern armed forces, he didn't necessarily spend a
- 22 hundred percent of his time with that armed force.

- 1 His trips to and from that armed force for purposes of
- 2 delivery of weapons has been something highlighted by the prosecution
- 3 in the case it's presented. The authorization comes, we believe, in
- 4 the form of a weapons permit from the Taliban, which has been
- 5 introduced into evidence and which does bear the name, we understand,
- 6 of Abu Abdulla, but we understood that the prosecution had presented
- 7 evidence suggesting that that was indeed a kunya associated with Mr.
- 8 Hamdan. On the back of that document, there is handwritten the word
- 9 "Sagr" as well. So we----
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I missed that piece of evidence. I
- 11 didn't--I don't remember that that name that appeared on the front of
- 12 the weapons permit was an alias or whatever you call it----
- 13 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: A kunya.
- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: ---that Mr. Hamdan sometimes used. Do you
- 15 agree that that's the case? Was that weapons permit issued in Mr.
- 16 Hamdan's name?
- 17 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: The testimony came in----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: My recollection was that his kunya appeared
- 19 on the back of that in someone else's handwriting and that this was
- 20 actually someone else's weapons permit.
- 21 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: We believe that it was overheard on the
- 22 radio, it came in on the testimony of Witness A, that he believed he
- 23 was in possession--he had captured an important figure, that Abu

- 1 Abdulla was--there was a great deal of radio traffic relating to
- 2 that, to that individual, and that he was--he believed he had that
- 3 individual and----
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I don't remember that. I guess I do remember
- 5 that part of Witness A's testimony, but I don't remember that----
- 6 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: In addition, there is the so-called, what's
- 7 been referred to in evidence as the pika note which, in fact, a
- 8 translation of which was read into the record by Agent . That
- 9 pika note, though it appears in the record in Arabic as a documentary
- 10 exhibit, is a letter from Khallad to Saqr al Jadawi, which requests
- 11 the delivery of certain items of ammunition and military
- 12 significance. It is undated, but it supports the idea that Mr.
- 13 Hamdan is a civilian, is authorized to move material and war supplies
- 14 to the Ansars, the Arab dominated force that's integrated with the
- 15 Taliban.
- Accordingly, we think both of those documents represent
- 17 written authorization. Admittedly, not in the form of the appendix
- 18 attached to the Third Geneva Convention, but the commentary to the
- 19 Convention makes it clear that that's not an absolute prerequisite,
- 20 that that form be observed. So we think there are two separate
- 21 documents that would support authorization to be providing services
- 22 to armed forces and that that is the primary thrust of that section

- 1 of Article IV of the GPW; and that there is some evidence in the
- 2 record which would permit that instruction to be issued.
- 3 CDC [MR. SCHNEIDER]: Your Honor, I can at least speak to any
- 4 questions regarding the direct of Witness A. There was no testimony
- 5 elicited that Abu Abdulla was a kunya of the accused. However, it is
- 6 true that he did say that "Sagr" was written on the back of the
- 7 document. However, Witness A was unable to actually attach or
- 8 connect "Sagr" even with Sagr al Jadawi. In fact, I attempted to
- 9 elicit that from the witness and he pretty much refused to take that
- 10 extra step, so I don't believe that that evidence is in the record.
- 11 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Well that----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: See, I guess the other problem I have with
- 13 this is, as I read Article IV of the Third Geneva Convention, I see
- 14 it describing people who are semi-permanently or permanently
- 15 accompanying the armed forces, and the examples they give are
- 16 contractors, members of aviation crews, people who provide services
- 17 on an ongoing basis, and that they are actually civilians who
- 18 accompany the armed forces and are--that's kind of their primary
- 19 employment. They're paid for that.
- Now, the evidence as I remember it is that Mr. Hamdan was
- 21 paid by bin Laden personally, not even by al Qaeda perhaps, and that
- 22 he had made occasional trips to deliver weapons to various people,

- 1 including the Taliban, but I just never--I don't see any evidence
- 2 that he was a civilian accompanying the armed forces, so ...
- 3 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: We didn't think that the--the third Geneva
- 4 Convention, Article IV, imposed any duration requirement in terms of
- 5 long service with the armed forces. That wasn't present in any of
- 6 the authorities we looked at. I understand and believe the Court has
- 7 correctly summarized the evidence on this point, but we are not--the
- 8 defense wouldn't support the establishment of a sort of duration of
- 9 service requirement for the benefit of that protected status. In
- 10 fact, the thrust of the Geneva Convention is to err on the side of
- 11 inclusion in these situations to extend protection rather than to
- 12 strictly read the text to limit it.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, that's a fair point.
- 14 Commander Stone.
- TC [LCDR STONE]: Yes, sir. However, if you take the defense's
- 16 point with regards to what they were just talking about with regards
- 17 to Geneva having an open-ended or a non--as you said, the fact that
- 18 the accused or anyone else could be a contractor as its primary
- 19 purpose, that is the purpose of GC III. To read it otherwise as the
- 20 defense is saying, that you could move in and out of the status as a
- 21 civilian--I mean, that's what makes him in part an unlawful
- 22 combatant, because he's moving from--as a civilian unlawful combatant
- 23 distinction, by reading it the way that the defense wants you to read

- 1 it, you blur the line to the point that there's no distinction
- 2 between those things in GC IV A(a)(4) as under the civilian
- 3 contractor.
- I mean, if you read it the way the defense really is
- 5 pushing you to read it, then there is no distinction between those
- 6 individuals that are truly protected, your supply contractors, your
- 7 aviation mechanics, et cetera, with the individual that--well, today
- 8 I'm going to be a supply contractor and tomorrow I'm not. So how
- 9 they're asking you to interpret it is really fundamentally wrong with
- 10 regards to the way it's set up, underlying prediction--or protections
- 11 enunciated by Geneva, and because of that, you really can't stretch
- 12 it to the point, --because what the defense wants you to do is really
- 13 break that to the point where it doesn't exist. Geneva is put in
- 14 place fundamentally to protect that class of people, the accused--
- 15 and there's been no evidence to suggest that he would fit in any way
- 16 under that category. So the prosecution's position is in agreement
- 17 with what your original decision of not issuing the affirmative
- 18 defense.
- 19 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, just very briefly, if I can
- 20 respond. That was a very important point and I think it was flat
- 21 wrong. We are not contending that Mr. Hamdan was a combatant. He was
- 22 a civilian. The--the instruction we suggest does not blur the line
- 23 between combatants and civilians, which it is the primary focus of

- 1 the law of war to maintain a sharp, sharp division between combatants
- 2 and civilians. However, looking at Article IV of the Geneva
- 3 Convention, it is explicit that two out of the six categories of
- 4 protected persons are civilians -- can be civilians. So this does not
- 5 blur the line between combatant and civilian. Affording individuals
- 6 protected status under Article IV can be afforded to civilians, as in
- 7 this instance, without blurring that all-important line.
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I'm going to deny the defense the
- 9 affirmative defense. I just don't see any evidence in the record
- 10 that Mr. Hamdan was a person who accompanied the armed forces. It's
- 11 true that he visited the armed forces from time to time, but in fact
- 12 he was primarily an employee of al Oaeda or of Mr. bin Laden. I don't
- 13 find any evidence in the record that he had received authorization
- 14 from the armed forces to accompany them.
- What he had, if it was issued in his name and if it
- 16 belonged to him, was a small arms permit that allowed him to carry a
- 17 handgun or something, so that he could present it to Taliban
- 18 authorities when he was stopped and that he wouldn't be bothered by
- 19 the Taliban authorities. The fact that the permit, even if it is
- 20 issued in his name, doesn't comply with the format of the Geneva
- 21 Conventions I agree with the defense is a matter of no significance.
- 22 So this affirmative defense that you requested pertaining to
- 23 Specifications 3 and 4 under Charge II, which involved the

- 1 transportation of weapons, the surface to air missiles--and I don't
- 2 believe you have raised the defense.
- 3 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: There is one final objection we would like
- 4 to place on the record, Your Honor.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 6 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: It's one I alluded to earlier in an 802,
- 7 and it is the objection that bodyguard services can be included as
- 8 among the material support for terrorism or a terrorist organization.
- 9 The phrase "bodyguard services" does not appear in the definition of
- 10 "material support" or "resources" in the Manual for Military
- 11 Commissions. Admittedly, the definition that does appear references
- 12 any property or service. We rely, however, on federal case law which
- 13 stands for the proposition that in interpreting the material support
- 14 statute under the U.S. domestic code, which is substantially similar,
- 15 it's been held that the enumeration of items or services must be
- 16 complete, must be deemed all-inclusive rather than open-ended, in
- 17 order to comply with a principle of notice required in order to
- 18 impose criminal penalties for conduct, and we would request then that
- 19 Specifications 7 and 8 of the second charge, the material support
- 20 charge as relating to bodyguard services, be deleted from the
- 21 instruction and the charge sheet.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You're asking me to dismiss those
- 23 specifications or just not to instruct upon them?

- 1 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Well, to dismiss them for the reason that
- 2 there is not adequate notice under the term "material support or
- 3 resources."
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I do remember you bringing that to my
- 5 attention on Saturday afternoon. And although you cited some cases
- 6 to me, I don't think I found those cases. I read the ones that you
- 7 gave me copies of and I guess I just moved on without remembering to
- 8 look for those.
- 9 Government, what's your reaction? Have you read these
- 10 cases?
- 11 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, we haven't read the cases. The
- 12 prosecution's position, though, is that bodyguard services would fall
- 13 specifically under the expert assistance prong of material support.
- 14 I mean, he was clearly trained in order to--how to protect Usama bin
- 15 Laden. There was a lot of testimony on the record to suggest that
- 16 they trained in the convoys and they did different tactical evasive
- 17 maneuvers; that this was not something that could have just been done
- 18 by a layman but, in fact, that he was a trained bodyguard and driver
- 19 for the protection of Usama bin Laden. So we think that it would
- 20 fall clearly under that prong within the definition, expert
- 21 assistance.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, do you have those cases readily
- 23 at hand? Did you already cite them in your draft instruction?

- 1 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: We did cite them in the draft instructions.
- 2 I believe it's set out in the Humanitarian Law Project cases of the
- 3 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. There's a series of them.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: And those refer to the term, the general term
- 5 "services"?
- 6 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: They refer to the proposition that the list
- 7 set forth in the statute should be deemed all-encompassing, or a
- 8 complete and exhaustive list, rather than being open-ended, in order
- 9 to protect the sort of due process rights of notice about conduct
- 10 that could be deemed criminal.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. What--do they address language such as
- 12 expert advice or assistance?
- 13 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: There are cases that do address expert
- 14 advice, and my recollection is that that has been held to be
- 15 unconstitutionally vague and void for vagueness, because it could, in
- 16 fact, embrace things as widespread as or as necessary as providing
- 17 expert legal services.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, why don't you bring to me the
- 19 cases that you want me to read before the members assemble at 9:30,
- 20 and we'll see if we can sort this out one way or the other. In the
- 21 meantime, that's all the defense's challenges to the instructions as
- 22 written?
- 23 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Yes, sir.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Now, remind me what was the first one? Did I
- 2 agree to make a change for you?
- 3 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: The first one related to the definition of
- 4 armed conflict and no, you did not.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I think since that's one of many
- 6 factors, it's fair enough. Matter of fact, with respect to the draft
- 7 language on the context and associated with armed conflict, I think
- 8 I'll add the phrase "and other facts and circumstances that the
- 9 parties might argue," so that you can roam around in that territory
- 10 and make whatever argument you wish.
- Okay. I will go make these changes I have agreed to make.
- 12 I'll wait for the defense to bring me whatever cases it specifically
- 13 wants me to read with respect to expert advice or services, and we'll
- 14 plan to return at 9:30 to----
- 15 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Do we want to go over it right now, sir,
- 16 before you, the findings worksheet, and if there's any issues or so -
- 17 -issues with it?
- 18 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I did receive a findings worksheet this
- 19 morning and I was told that the defense had no objections to it.
- 20 CTC [LCDR STONE]: I actually only have one point, and it's a
- 21 minor one. Looking at Specification 2--and I discussed this with
- 22 counsel--Specification 2 of Charge I, I'm really not sure how you

- 1 could have an exception and substitution as it's drafted and still be
- 2 guilty.
- 3 And with respect to----
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I didn't bring my copy of the charge sheet to
- 5 the bench. Did you discuss this with counsel?
- 6 TC [LCDR STONE]: We did.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: What would the members possibly except or
- 8 substitute in Charge II or Specification 2?
- 9 TC [LCDR STONE]: Well, I think that they----
- 10 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Charge I, Specification 2.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 12 TC [LCDR STONE]: I think they could, in fact, except out the
- 13 words "Taliban" and based on your -- they would probably either need
- 14 to--I mean, they could certainly strike out the word "Taliban and he
- 15 was, in fact, delivering them to al Qaeda." Not giving them that
- 16 opportunity or not striking the words "Taliban" right now, being that
- 17 you're giving them the lawful--you know, the defense or the judicial
- 18 notice that the Taliban is the lawful government of Afghanistan,
- 19 actually, sir, quite frankly could confuse the finding on appeal if
- 20 they didn't--if either--if "Taliban" wasn't stricken from the
- 21 language now.
- 22 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Then in a sense, if we are going to do that,
- 23 you know, in the process, you know, then you need to instruct them

- 1 specifically if they find it to be Taliban, it's not guilty.
- 2 Because, you know, you set up a case where they could strike "al
- 3 Qaeda, "find Taliban, and then find guilty, which would be a verdict,
- 4 all or in part, and I think that if we set it up where they
- 5 understand in the instruction that they must find that he's
- 6 delivering to al Qaeda to be guilty, unless the government's position
- 7 is if he's delivering to either he's guilty, in which case----
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You're talking about the second conspiracy?
- 9 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Second conspiracy, sir.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay, now, is this--is this just a request
- 11 for a change to the findings worksheet or a request for a change in
- 12 the instructions?
- 13 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: To the findings. I think the instructions are
- 14 fine. The findings worksheet, I'm not sure whether there's an
- 15 exception or substitution, and if there is going to be an exceptions
- 16 or substitutions on this, it would I think have to indicate that--
- 17 well, given the instructions, I'm going withdraw that. Now that I'm
- 18 thinking about it as I'm standing here, I'll withdraw the part and
- 19 allow the members to strike that as they please, being, I guess,
- 20 there is a way wherein they could find and strike out language.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, the specification--let's see. See, the
- 22 specification says "an agreement with one or more known or unknown
- 23 members of al Qaeda or the Taliban," and the instruction as I have it

- 1 drafted says "entered into an agreement to commit murder in violation
- 2 of the law of war." So my sense is that if he entered into an
- 3 agreement with one or more known or unknown members, that---
- 4 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Yeah, that was the part where I couldn't see
- 5 where we would have an exception or substitution, but----
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. So you have no objections then to the
- 7 findings worksheet; is that right?
- 8 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: That's correct.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, I will go back then and take a
- 10 final look at the instructions.
- 11 TC [LCDR STONE]: Sir, I have----
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Oh, I'm sorry; one more thing?
- 13 TC [LCDR STONE]: I know it's my proposed findings worksheet,
- 14 but I have one objection. One of the--when we took on Charge I,
- 15 Specification 1, as we talked on Saturday, by charging in the
- 16 conjunctive and proving in the disjunctive--I think one word on the
- 17 findings work sheet and it says, after "Saif al Adel," where it says
- 18 "and: I think that probably needs to be "or".
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: On the findings worksheet?
- 20 TC [LCDR STONE]: Yes, sir. If you look at Charge I,
- 21 Specification 1.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.

- 1 TC [LCDR STONE]: Where we went ahead and pulled the basic
- 2 language of the charge, when it comes to the findings part of it,
- 3 "and" should be "or" because it's proving in the disjunctive.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, the findings worksheet has the same
- 5 language as the Specification. I don't care if you change that to
- 6 "or" if the defense doesn't care.
- 7 TC [LCDR STONE]: I think it makes it consistent with----
- 8 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: We have no objection, Your Honor.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 10 TC [LCDR STONE]: I think it just makes it consistent with all
- 11 of the other language.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well----
- 13 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: The well-established law.
- 14 TC [LCDR STONE]: And otherwise----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Why don't you just make that copy--that
- 16 handwritten change to the findings worksheet, and we'll have this
- 17 marked as the next appellate exhibit in order. Okay.
- 18 I'll be in my office and working on the final draft of the
- 19 instruction until I hear from counsel and then we'll go forward.
- 20 [The military commission recessed at 0919, 4 August 2008.]
- 21 [The R.M.C. 803 session was called to order at 0951, 4 August 2008.]
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order. I'll give the
- 23 court reporter the findings and instructions and ask her to mark

- 1 those as the next appellate exhibit in order. I'll deliver these to
- 2 the members, to the senior member, when they retire to deliberate.
- 3 During the recess, Mr. McMillan brought me two cases:
- 4 Humanitarian Law Project against John Ashcroft from the United States
- 5 District Court for the Central District of California, a 2004 case;
- 6 and the Humanitarian Law Project against Michael Lucchesi, it looks
- 7 like, and his friends, Condoleezza Rice and et cetera, from the Ninth
- 8 Circuit. I didn't have time to read these, but I'll take this up
- 9 later. This would have been an intriguing motion to argue during our
- 10 motions--law motions arguing days, but I don't have time to give it
- 11 the attention it deserves right now. If he's acquitted of those
- 12 specifications, it will be academic. Or in any event, we can take it
- 13 up later.
- 14 When the members return, I will--do you have my
- 15 instructions ready for me, Specialist Chen? I need to read those now
- 16 --I'll advise the members of the change to Specifications 3 and 4
- 17 under Charge II, and we will be on our way. Anything else before we
- 18 call the members?
- TC [LCDR STONE]: No, sir.
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Bailiff, please ask the members to enter the
- 21 courtroom.
- DC [LCDR MIZER]: Sir, did you give a copy to the interpreters,
- 23 of the instructions?

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: We did.
- 2 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Okay.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: There have been slight changes made since the
- 4 interpreter got their version, but I think--think they'll be able to
- 5 follow along pretty well.
- 6 BAILIFF: All rise [all persons did as directed and the members
- 7 entered the courtroom].
- 8 [The R.M.C. 803 session terminated and the military commission
- 9 commenced at 0952, 4 August 2008.]
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Good morning, members. Please be seated [all
- 11 persons did as directed]. Counsel, members of the gallery, can be
- 12 seated.
- 13 There are only six of you this morning. It looks like our
- 14 alternate juror decided to go back to work. That's fine. We have
- 15 our primary panel here.
- 16 Members, if you would take a moment and look at the copy of
- 17 the charges that was given to you at the beginning of the case, under
- 18 Specifications 3 and 4 of Charge II, these are specifications in
- 19 which the accused is charged with providing material support to
- 20 terrorism by transporting surface to air missiles. I have granted a
- 21 motion for a finding of not guilty as to that specification as
- 22 charged and will instruct you instead on the lesser included offense
- 23 of attempting to provide material support to terrorism.

- 1 And so as you look at the specification, please insert the
- 2 words "attempt to" before the word "provide" in both Specifications 3
- 3 and 4 under Charge II. Very good. It looks like those changes have
- 4 been made.
- 5 I'm going to read you now 19 pages of detailed
- 6 instructions. I will give you this copy to take with you into
- 7 deliberations when you retire. There's no need to try to keep this
- 8 all straight as we go through it.
- 9 Members of the Court: When you close to deliberate and
- 10 vote on the findings, each of you must resolve the ultimate question
- 11 of whether the accused is guilty or not guilty based upon the
- 12 evidence presented here in court and upon the instructions which I
- 13 will now give you. My duty is to instruct you on the law. Your duty
- 14 is to determine the facts, apply the law to the facts, and determine
- 15 the guilt or innocence of the accused. The law presumes the accused
- 16 to be innocent of the charges against him.
- 17 At the end of my instructions, you will hear an exposition
- 18 of the facts by counsel for both sides as they view them. Bear in
- 19 mind that the arguments of counsel are not evidence. Argument is
- 20 made by counsel in order to assist you in understanding and
- 21 evaluating the evidence. But you must base your determination of the
- 22 issues in this case on the evidence as you remember it and apply the
- 23 law as I instruct you.

- 1 During the trial, some of you took notes. You may take your notes
- 2 with you into the deliberation room and consult them. Your notes are
- 3 not a substitute for the record of trial.
- I will now advise you of the elements of each offense
- 5 alleged against the accused.
- In Specification 1 of Charge I, the accused is charged with
- 7 the offense of conspiracy. In order to find the accused guilty of
- 8 this offense you must be convinced by legal and competent evidence of
- 9 each of the following elements beyond a reasonable doubt:
- 10 The first element: Between about February of 1996 and
- 11 about 24 November 2001, Mr. Hamdan entered into an agreement with
- 12 Usama bin Laden, Ayman al Zawahiri, Sheik Said al Masri, Muhammad
- 13 Atef, also known as Abu Hafs al Masri, Saif al Adel or various other
- 14 members of al Qaeda organization, known or unknown, to commit one or
- 15 more of the following substantive offenses triable by military
- 16 commission: attacking civilians, attacking civilian objects, murder
- 17 in violation of the law of war, destruction of property in violation
- 18 of the law of war, or terrorism.
- 19 The second element is that Mr. Hamdan knew the unlawful
- 20 purpose of the agreement and joined willingly with the intent to
- 21 further the unlawful purpose.
- The third element: While this agreement continued to exist
- 23 and while Mr. Hamdan remained a party to the agreement, Mr. Hamdan

- 1 knowingly committed at least one of the following overt acts for the
- 2 purpose of bringing about one of the objects of the agreement:
- 3 served as a bodyguard for Usama bin Laden; served as a driver for
- 4 Usama bin Laden; transported and delivered weapons, ammunition or
- 5 other supplies to al Qaeda members and associates; drove or
- 6 accompanied Usama bin Laden to various al Qaeda training camps, press
- 7 conferences or lectures; or received weapons training in Afghanistan.
- 8 The fourth element is that this conduct occurred in the
- 9 context of and was associated with an armed conflict. Proof that the
- 10 offense of attacking civilians, attacking civilian objects, murder in
- 11 violation of the law of war, destruction of property in violation of
- 12 the law of war, or terrorism actually occurred is not required;
- 13 however, it must be proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the
- 14 agreement included every element of at least one of the offenses the
- 15 government has alleged as objects of the conspiracy.
- 16 At least four of the six members must agree on the same
- 17 object of the conspiracy to find that that conspiracy existed. The
- 18 agreement in a conspiracy does not have to be in any particular form
- 19 or expressed in formal words. It is sufficient if the minds of the
- 20 parties reach a common understanding to accomplish the object of the
- 21 conspiracy and this may be proved by the conduct of the parties.
- The agreement does not have to express the manner in which
- 23 the conspiracy is to be carried out, or what part each conspirator is

- 1 to play. The overt act required for this offense does not have to be
- 2 a criminal act, but it must be a clear indication that the conspiracy
- 3 is being carried out. The overt act may be done either at the time
- 4 of or following the agreement. The overt act must clearly be
- 5 independent of the agreement itself, that is it must be more than
- 6 merely the act of entering into the agreement or an act necessary to
- 7 reach the agreement.
- 8 You are advised that there is no requirement that all co-
- 9 conspirators be named in the specification or that all co-
- 10 conspirators be subject to trial by military commission.
- 11 You will note that more than one overt act has been listed
- 12 in Specification 1. You may find Mr. Hamdan guilty of conspiracy
- 13 only if you are convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that he
- 14 personally committed at least one of the overt acts described in the
- 15 specification and that such act was indeed an act in furtherance of
- 16 the alleged agreement. Accordingly, if you find beyond a reasonable
- 17 doubt that Mr. Hamdan committed one or more such overt acts but not
- 18 all of them, your findings should reflect this by appropriate
- 19 exceptions.
- 20 At least four of the members present when the vote is taken
- 21 must concur that the accused committed the same overt act. Thus, you
- 22 may find Mr. Hamdan guilty of Specification 1 under Charge I if you
- 23 find beyond a reasonable doubt that he conspired to do any of the

- 1 following: Conspiracy to attack civilians would require you to find
- 2 beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Hamdan entered into an agreement
- 3 to intentionally direct attacks against the civilian population as
- 4 such, or against individual civilians not taking direct part in
- 5 hostilities; that Mr. Hamdan knew or should have known the factual
- 6 circumstances that established the civilian status; that Mr. Hamdan
- 7 knew the unlawful purpose of the agreement and joined willingly with
- 8 the intent to further the unlawful purpose;
- 9 That Mr. Hamdan committed an overt act in furtherance of
- 10 the agreement and that the agreement and the intended act on
- 11 civilians took place in the context of and was associated with an
- 12 international armed conflict. The intent required for this offense
- 13 precludes its applicability with regard to collateral damage or
- 14 death, damage, or injury incident to a lawful attack.
- To find the accused guilty of a conspiracy to attack
- 16 civilian objects, you must find beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr.
- 17 Hamdan entered into an agreement to intentionally direct attacks
- 18 against civilian property, that is property that was not a military
- 19 objective; that Mr. Hamdan knew the unlawful purpose of the agreement
- 20 and joined willingly with the intent to further the unlawful purpose;
- 21 that Mr. Hamdan committed an overt act in furtherance of this
- 22 agreement; and that the agreement and the intended attack on civilian
- 23 objects took place in the context of and was associated with an

- 1 international armed conflict. The intent required for this offense
- 2 precludes its applicability with regard to collateral damage or
- 3 death, damage, or injury incident to a lawful attack.
- 4 Military objectives are those objects during an armed
- 5 conflict which, by their nature, location, purpose or use effectively
- 6 contribute to the opposing force's war-fighting or war-sustaining
- 7 capability and the total or partial destruction, capture, or
- 8 neutralization of which would constitute a definite military
- 9 advantage to the attacker under the circumstances at the time of the
- 10 attack. Civilian objects are those objects that do not qualify as
- 11 military objectives.
- 12 In order to find Mr. Hamdan guilty of conspiracy to commit
- 13 murder in violation of the law of war, you must find beyond a
- 14 reasonable doubt that Mr. Hamdan entered into an agreement to
- 15 intentionally kill one or more persons in violation of the law of
- 16 war; that Mr. Hamdan knew the unlawful purpose of the agreement and
- 17 joined willingly with the intent to further the unlawful purpose;
- 18 that Mr. Hamdan committed an overt act in furtherance of the
- 19 agreement; and that the agreement and the intended murder took place
- 20 in the context of and was associated with an armed conflict.
- 21 A killing violates the law of war where a combatant,
- 22 whether lawful or unlawful, intentionally and without justification
- 23 kills civilians not taking part in hostilities, military personnel

- 1 placed hors de combat by sickness, wounds or detention, or military
- 2 medical or religious personnel.
- In order to find Mr. Hamdan guilty of conspiracy to destroy
- 4 property in violation of the law of war, you must find beyond a
- 5 reasonable doubt that Mr. Hamdan entered into an agreement to
- 6 intentionally and without consent destroy property of another which
- 7 is not a military objective; that Mr. Hamdan knew the unlawful
- 8 purpose of the agreement and joined willingly with the intent to
- 9 further the unlawful purpose; that Mr. Hamdan committed an overt act
- 10 in furtherance of the agreement; and that the agreement and the
- 11 intended destruction of property took place in the context of and was
- 12 associated with an armed conflict.
- 13 Military objectives and civilian objects were defined on
- 14 page 3. Those definitions apply to this specification as well.
- In order to find Mr. Hamdan guilty of a conspiracy to
- 16 commit terrorism, you must find beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr.
- 17 Hamdan entered into an agreement to intentionally kill or inflict
- 18 great bodily harm on one or more protected persons, or to engage in
- 19 an act that evinces a wanton disregard for human life in a manner
- 20 calculated to influence or affect the conduct of government or
- 21 civilian population by intimidation or coercion, or to retaliate
- 22 against government conduct; that Mr. Hamdan knew the unlawful purpose
- 23 of the agreement and joined willingly with the intent to further the

- 1 unlawful purpose; that Mr. Hamdan committed an overt act in
- 2 furtherance of the agreement; and that the agreement and the intended
- 3 act of terrorism took place in the context of and was associated with
- 4 an armed conflict.
- 5 In order to be an act of terrorism, the act must be
- 6 wrongful. An attack on a military objective undertaken by military
- 7 forces of a state in the exercise of their official duties would not
- 8 constitute an act of terrorism. Protected persons are civilians not
- 9 taking an active part in hostilities, military personnel placed hors
- 10 de combat by sickness, wounds or detention, or military medical or
- 11 religious personnel.
- 12 If you have doubt that any overt act alleged in
- 13 Specification 1 was committed or that any overt act was committed in
- 14 furtherance of the alleged agreement, you may still reach a finding
- 15 of guilty so long as you conclude that Mr. Hamdan committed one of
- 16 the alleged overt acts in furtherance of the agreement, and all the
- 17 other elements of the offense are proved beyond a reasonable doubt,
- 18 but you must modify the specification to correctly reflect your
- 19 finding in this regard.
- Those are the instructions with respect to Charge I,
- 21 Specification 1. Do you see in the specification which items are the
- 22 overt acts? [Affirmative response from the members.]

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. In Specification 2 of Charge I, the
- 2 accused is charged with the offense of conspiracy to commit murder in
- 3 violation of the law of war. In order to find the accused guilty of
- 4 this offense, you must be convinced by legal and competent evidence
- 5 of each of the following elements beyond a reasonable doubt:
- First, that on or about 24 November 2001, the accused
- 7 entered into an agreement to commit murder in violation of the law of
- 8 war;
- 9 Two, that Mr. Hamdan knew the unlawful purpose of the
- 10 agreement and joined willingly with the intent to further the
- 11 unlawful purpose;
- 12 Three, that in order to effect the object of the
- 13 conspiracy, Mr. Hamdan committed an overt act in furtherance of the
- 14 agreement by transporting one or more SA-7 surface to air missiles to
- 15 be ultimately used to unlawfully and intentionally kill United States
- 16 or coalition service members. Four, that the agreement and the
- 17 intended killing took place in the context of and were associated
- 18 with an armed conflict.
- 19 Proof that the offense of murder in violation of the law of
- 20 war actually occurred is not required. However, it must be proved
- 21 beyond a reasonable doubt that the agreement included every element
- 22 of this offense. The agreement in a conspiracy does not have to be
- 23 in any particular form or expressed in formal words. It is

- 1 sufficient if the minds of the parties reach a common understanding
- 2 to accomplish the object of this conspiracy. And this may be proved
- 3 by the conduct of the parties. The agreement does not have to
- 4 express the manner in which the conspiracy is to be carried out or
- 5 what part each conspirator is to play.
- The overt act required for this offense does not have to be
- 7 a criminal act, but it must be a clear indication that the conspiracy
- 8 is being carried out. The overt act may be done either at the time
- 9 of or following the agreement. The overt act must clearly be
- 10 independent of the agreement itself; that is, it must be more than
- 11 merely the act of entering into the agreement or an act necessary to
- 12 reach the agreement.
- 13 You are advised that there is no requirement that all co-
- 14 conspirators be named in the specification or that all co-
- 15 conspirators be subject to trial by military commission.
- 16 The definitions associated with this offense have been
- 17 discussed on page four of these instructions. Those definitions also
- 18 apply here.
- In Specification 1 of Charge II, the accused is charged
- 20 with providing material support for an act of terrorism. In order to
- 21 find the accused guilty of this offense, you must be convinced beyond
- 22 a reasonable doubt of each of the following elements:

- 1 First, between February 19, 1996 and November 24, 2001, the
- 2 accused provided material support or resources, to wit, his person
- 3 for training, his services as a driver and bodyguard for Usama bin
- 4 Laden, and his services transporting weapons or weapon systems to be
- 5 used in preparation for or in carrying out an act of terrorism;
- 6 second, that he knew or intended that the material support or
- 7 resources were to be used for carrying out an act of terrorism;
- 8 third, that the conduct took place in the context of and was
- 9 associated with an armed conflict.
- 10 In Specification 2 of Charge II, the accused is charged
- 11 with providing material support for an international terrorist
- 12 organization. In order to find the accused guilty of this offense,
- 13 you must be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt of each of the
- 14 following elements: One, between about February 1996 and November
- 15 24, 2001, the accused provided material support or resources, to wit,
- 16 his person for training, his service as a driver and bodyguard for
- 17 Usama bin Laden, and his services transporting weapons or weapon
- 18 systems to be used in support of al Qaeda, an international terrorist
- 19 organization engaged in hostilities against the United States.
- 20 Two, that he intended to provide such material support or
- 21 resources to al Qaeda, an international terrorist organization
- 22 engaged in hostilities against the United States;

- 1 Three, that he knew that al Qaeda was engaged in or engages
- 2 in terrorism;
- 3 And four, that the conduct took place in the context of and
- 4 was associated with an armed conflict.
- 5 In Specification 3 of Charge III, the accused is charged
- 6 with an attempt to provide material support for an act of terrorism
- 7 in violation of Section 950(t) of the Military Commissions Act. This
- 8 is a lesser included offense of the charged offense of providing
- 9 material support for an act of terrorism.
- In order to find the accused guilty of this offense, you
- 11 must be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt of each of the following
- 12 elements:
- 13 First, on or about November 24, 2001, the accused did a
- 14 certain overt act, that is, he transported two SA-7 missiles;
- 15 Second, that the act was done with the specific intent to
- 16 commit the offense of providing material support for an act of
- 17 terrorism;
- Third, that the act amounted to more than mere preparation;
- 19 that is, it was a substantial step and a direct movement toward the
- 20 provision of material support for an act of terrorism;
- 21 Fourth, that the act apparently tended to effectuate the
- 22 commission of the intended offense of providing material support for
- 23 terrorism, that is the act apparently would have resulted in the

- 1 actual commission of the offense of providing material support for
- 2 terrorism except for an unexpected intervening circumstance, the
- 3 accused's capture, which prevented the completion of that offense;
- 4 Fifth, that the conduct took place in the context of and
- 5 was associated with an armed conflict.
- 6 Preparation consists of devising or arranging the means or
- 7 measures necessary for the commission of the attempted offense. To
- 8 find the accused guilty of this offense, you must find beyond a
- 9 reasonable doubt that the accused went beyond preparatory steps, and
- 10 his act amounted to a substantial step and a direct movement towards
- 11 the commission of the intended offense.
- 12 A substantial step is one that is strongly corroborative of
- 13 the accused's criminal intent and is indicative of his resolve to
- 14 commit the offense. Proof that the offense of material support for
- 15 terrorism actually occurred or was completed by the accused is not
- 16 required; however, it must be proved beyond a reasonable doubt that
- 17 at the time of the acts, the accused intended every element of the
- 18 offense of providing material support for a terrorist act. The
- 19 elements of the attempted offense providing material support for a
- 20 terrorist act and definitions have been described on page 7 of these
- 21 instructions under Specification 1 of Charge II. They also apply
- 22 here.

- In Specification 4 of Charge II the accused is charged with
- 2 an attempt to provide material support for an international terrorist
- 3 organization. In order to find the accused guilty of this offense
- 4 you must be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt of each of the
- 5 following elements:
- 6 First, that on or about November 24, 2001, the accused did
- 7 a certain overt act; that is, he transported two SA-7 missiles;
- 8 Second, that the act was done with the specific intent to
- 9 commit the offense of providing material support for an international
- 10 terrorist organization engaged in hostilities against the United
- 11 States;
- 12 Third, that the act amounted to more than mere preparation;
- 13 that is, it was a substantial step and a direct movement toward the
- 14 provision of material support for an international terrorist
- 15 organization;
- 16 Fourth, that the act apparently tended to effectuate the
- 17 commission of the intended offense of providing material support for
- 18 terrorism; that is, the act apparently would have resulted in the
- 19 actual commission of the offense of providing material support for an
- 20 international terrorist organization except for an unexpected
- 21 intervening circumstance, his capture, which prevented the completion
- 22 of that offense;

- 1 Fifth, that the conduct took place in the context of and
- 2 was associated with an armed conflict.
- 3 The definition of preparation and the other supporting
- 4 instructions and definitions relevant to Specification 4 appear also
- 5 under Specification 3 and they apply to this offense.
- In Specification 5 of Charge II, the accused is charged
- 7 with providing material support for an act of terrorism. In order to
- 8 find the accused guilty of this offense, you must be convinced beyond
- 9 a reasonable doubt of each of the following elements:
- 10 First, between about February 1996 and November 24, 2001,
- 11 the accused provided material support or resources, to wit, his
- 12 services as a driver for Usama bin Laden, to be used in preparation
- 13 for or in carrying out an act of terrorism;
- 14 Second, that he knew or intended that the material support
- or resources were to be used for carrying out an act of terrorism;
- 16 And third, that the conduct took place in the context of
- 17 and was associated with an armed conflict.
- In Specification 6 of Charge II, the accused is charged
- 19 with providing material support for an international terrorist
- 20 organization. In order to find the accused guilty of this offense,
- 21 you must be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt of each of the
- 22 following elements:

- First, between about February 1996 and November 24, 2001,
- 2 the accused provided material support or resources, to wit, his
- 3 services as a driver for Usama bin Laden to be used in support of al
- 4 Qaeda, an international terrorist organization engaged in hostilities
- 5 against the United States;
- 6 Second, that he intended to provide such material support
- 7 or resources to an international organization;
- 8 Third, that he knew that such organization, al Qaeda, has
- 9 engaged in or engages in terrorism;
- 10 And fourth, that the conduct took place in the context of
- 11 and was associated with an armed conflict.
- In Specification 7 of Charge II, the accused is charged
- 13 with providing material support for an act of terrorism. In order to
- 14 find the accused quilty of this offense, you must be convinced beyond
- 15 a reasonable doubt of each of the following elements:
- 16 First, between about February 1996 and November 24, 2001,
- 17 the accused provided material support or resources to wit, his
- 18 services as a bodyguard for Usama bin Laden to be used in preparation
- 19 for or in carrying out an act of terrorism;
- 20 Second, that he knew or intended that the material support
- 21 or resources were to be used for carrying out an act of terrorism;
- 22 and third, that the conduct took place in the context of and was
- 23 associated with an armed conflict.

- In Specification 8 of Charge II, the accused is charged
- 2 with providing material support for an international terrorist
- 3 organization. In order to find the accused guilty of this offense,
- 4 you must be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt of each of the
- 5 following elements:
- 6 First, between about February 1996 and November 24, 2001,
- 7 the accused provided material support or resources, to wit, his
- 8 services as a bodyguard for Mr. bin Laden to be used in support of al
- 9 Qaeda, an international terrorist organization engaged in hostilities
- 10 against the United States;
- 11 Second, that he intended to provide such material support
- 12 or resources to an international terrorist organization;
- 13 Third, that he knew such organization has engaged in or
- 14 engages in terrorism; and fourth that the conduct took place in the
- 15 context of and was associated with an armed conflict.
- With respect to Specifications 1, 3, 5, and 7 of Charge II,
- 17 "terrorism" is defined as the intentional killing or the intentional
- 18 infliction of great bodily harm on one or more protected persons, or
- 19 intentionally engaging in acts that evince a wanton disregard for
- 20 human life in a manner calculated to influence or affect the conduct
- 21 of government or a civilian population by intimidation or coercion,
- 22 or to retaliate against government conduct.

- 1 With respect to each of the eight specifications under
- 2 Charge II, "material support or resources" means any property,
- 3 tangible or intangible, or service, including currency or monetary
- 4 instruments or financial securities, financial services, lodging,
- 5 training, expert advice or assistance, safe houses, false
- 6 documentation or identification, communications equipment,
- 7 facilities, weapons, lethal substances, explosives, personnel--
- 8 meaning one or more individuals who may be or include oneself--and
- 9 transportation, except for medicine or religious materials.
- 10 In order to be an act of terrorism, the act must be
- 11 wrongful, which means that it was undertaken without legal
- 12 justification or excuse. An act--an attack on a military objective
- 13 undertaken by military forces of a state in the exercise of their
- 14 official duties would not constitute an act of terrorism.
- To convict the accused of providing material support for an
- 16 act of terrorism, the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt
- 17 that the accused knew or intended to provide support for either the
- 18 preparation for or the execution of a specific act of terrorism. The
- 19 offense is inherently forward-looking and the accused cannot be
- 20 convicted for providing material support for past acts of terrorism.
- 21 To convict the accused of providing material support for an
- 22 international terrorist organization, the government most prove
- 23 beyond a reasonable doubt that in providing material support or

- 1 resources, the accused did so knowing that the material support or
- 2 resources could or would be utilized to further the activities of the
- 3 international terrorist organization and not merely the personal
- 4 interests of al Oaeda's individual members.
- 5 With respect to each of the ten specifications before you,
- 6 the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the actions
- 7 of the accused took place in the context of and that they were
- 8 associated with armed conflict. In determining whether an armed
- 9 conflict existed between the United States and al Oaeda and when it
- 10 began, you should consider the length, duration, and intensity of
- 11 hostilities between the parties, whether there was protracted armed
- 12 violence between governmental authorities and organized armed groups,
- 13 whether and when the United States decided to employ the combat
- 14 capabilities of its armed forces to meet the al Qaeda threat, the
- 15 number of persons killed or wounded on each side, the amount of
- 16 property damage on each side, statements of the leaders of both sides
- 17 indicating their perceptions regarding the existence of an armed
- 18 conflict, including the presence or absence of a declaration to that
- 19 effect, and any other facts or circumstances you consider relevant to
- 20 determining the existence of armed conflict.
- 21 The parties may argue the existence of other facts and
- 22 circumstances from which you might reach your determination regarding
- 23 this issue. In determining whether the acts of the accused took

- 1 place in the context of and were associated with an armed conflict,
- 2 you should consider whether the acts of the accused occurred during
- 3 the period of an armed conflict as defined above, whether they were
- 4 performed while the accused acted on behalf of or under the authority
- 5 of a party to the armed conflict, and whether they constituted or
- 6 were closely and substantially related to hostilities occurring
- 7 during the armed conflict and other facts and circumstances you
- 8 consider relevant to this issue.
- 9 Counsel may address this matter during their closing
- 10 arguments, and may suggest other factors for your consideration.
- 11 Conduct of the accused that occurs at a distance from the area of
- 12 conflict can still be in the context of and associated with armed
- 13 conflict, as long as it was closely and substantially related to the
- 14 hostilities that comprised the conflict.
- 15 A number of pretrial statements by the accused have been
- 16 admitted into evidence through the testimony of various federal
- 17 agents. The defense has introduced evidence that the accused's
- 18 statements were obtained without any warning or advisement of a right
- 19 to remain silent, and that this was the result of a formal policy
- 20 decision not to give any such warnings. I have determined that these
- 21 statements were admissible in a trial by military commission without
- 22 such warnings. You must decide the weight or significance, if any,
- 23 such statements deserve under all the circumstances.

- In deciding what weight or significance, if any, to give to
- 2 the accused's statements, you should consider the specific evidence
- 3 offered on the matter, your own common sense and knowledge of human
- 4 nature, and the nature of any corroborating evidence, as well as the
- 5 other evidence introduced in this trial.
- 6 Evidence may be direct or circumstantial. Direct evidence
- 7 is evidence which tends directly to prove or disprove a fact in
- 8 issue. If a fact in issue was whether it rained during the night,
- 9 for example, testimony by a witness that he saw it rain would be
- 10 direct evidence that it had rained. On the other hand,
- 11 circumstantial evidence is evidence which tends to prove some other
- 12 facts from which, either alone or together with some other facts or
- 13 circumstances, you may reasonably infer the existence or nonexistence
- 14 of a fact in issue. If there was evidence that the street was wet in
- 15 the morning, for example, that would be circumstantial evidence from
- 16 which you might reasonably infer that it rained during the night.
- 17 There is no general rule for determining or comparing the
- 18 weight to be given to direct or circumstantial evidence. You should
- 19 give all the evidence the weight and value you believe it deserves.
- I have instructed you that with respect to Specifications
- 21 2, 4, 6 and 8 under Charge II, the government must prove beyond a
- 22 reasonable doubt that the accused actually intended that his support
- 23 be used for an international terrorist organization. Direct evidence

- 1 of intent is often unavailable. The accused's intent, however, may
- 2 be proved by circumstantial evidence, that is, by facts or
- 3 circumstances from which you may reasonably infer the existence of
- 4 such an intent.
- 5 In deciding this issue, you must consider all the relevant
- 6 facts and circumstances, including but not limited to evidence that
- 7 he did or did not know a particular matter at a particular time, that
- 8 he was or was not told of plans then being prepared, his awareness or
- 9 lack of it regarding what Mr. bin Laden and al Qaeda were doing, and
- 10 the degree of his involvement in or agreement with those plans.
- I have instructed you that with respect to Specifications
- 12 1, 3, 5, and 7 under Charge II, you must be satisfied beyond a
- 13 reasonable doubt that the accused knew that the support he was
- 14 providing would be used for an act of terrorism. As with intent,
- 15 direct evidence of a person's knowledge is often unavailable. This
- 16 knowledge, like any other fact, may be proved by circumstantial
- 17 evidence. In deciding this issue, you must consider all relevant
- 18 facts and circumstances such as those you may consider with respect
- 19 to the issue of the accused's intent.
- I have taken judicial notice that at all times relevant to
- 21 this case, the Taliban were the de facto government of Afghanistan
- 22 and that Taliban military personnel were serving as the regular armed
- 23 forces of the State of Afghanistan. I have also taken judicial

- 1 notice that at all relevant times Afghanistan was a signatory to all
- 2 four of the Geneva Conventions of 1949. This means that you are now
- 3 permitted to recognize and consider those facts without further
- 4 proof. It should be considered by you as evidence with all the other
- 5 evidence in the case. You may, but are not required to, accept as
- 6 conclusive any matter I have judicially noticed.
- 7 You have the duty to determine the believability of the
- 8 witnesses. In performing this duty, you must consider each witness'
- 9 intelligence, ability to observe and accurately remember, sincerity
- 10 and conduct in court, and prejudices and character for truthfulness.
- 11 Consider also the extent to which each witness is either
- 12 supported or contradicted by other witnesses or evidence, the
- 13 relationship each witness may have with either side, and how each
- 14 witness might be affected by the verdict. In weighing discrepancies
- 15 by a witness or between witnesses, you should consider whether they
- 16 resulted from an innocent mistake, a failure of memory, or a
- 17 deliberate lie.
- Taking all these matters into account, you should then
- 19 consider the probability of each witness' testimony and the
- 20 inclination of the witness to tell the truth. The believability of
- 21 each witness' testimony should be your guide in evaluating testimony
- 22 and not the number of witnesses called.

1 An accused may be convicted based only on evidence before 2 the Court, and not on evidence of a general criminal disposition. 3 Each offense must stand on its own, and you must keep the evidence 4 respecting each offense separate. Stated differently, if you find or believe that the accused is guilty of one offense, you may not use 5 that finding or belief as a basis for inferring, assuming, or proving 6 7 that he committed any other offense. If evidence had been presented 8 which is relevant to more than one offense, you may consider that 9 evidence with respect to each offense to which it is relevant. For 10 example, evidence has been presented with respect to Mr. Hamdan's 11 possession of missiles. You may consider that evidence with respect 12 to each of the offenses that relate to the possession of missiles. 13 The burden is on the prosecution to prove each and every 14 element of each offense beyond a reasonable doubt. Proof of one 15 offense carries with it no inference that the accused is guilty of 16 any other offense. If you have doubt about the time, place or manner 17 in which any of the offenses described in the specifications were 18 committed, but you are satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the 19 offense was committed at a slightly different time or place or in a 20 particular manner which differs slightly from the exact time, place, or manner in the specification, you may make minor modifications in 21 reaching your findings by changing the time, place or manner in which 22

--in which the acts described in the specification were committed,

23

- 1 provided that you do not change the nature or identity of the
- 2 offense.
- 3 As to any specification, if you have doubt that the
- 4 government has proven all of the times, places and manners charged in
- 5 the specification, you may still reach a finding of guilty so long as
- 6 all the elements of the offense are proved beyond a reasonable doubt,
- 7 but you must modify the specification to correctly reflect your
- 8 findings. For example, in a different context, if a young sailor
- 9 were accused of stealing a radio and a bike and you found that he
- 10 stole the bike but not the radio, you would find him guilty excepting
- 11 the words "the radio." If a young soldier was convicted of an
- 12 unauthorized absence from the 1st of July to the 10th of July and you
- 13 found that he returned on the 8th of July, you would find him guilty,
- 14 except the words "10 July," and substituting the words "8 July."
- Understand how those might work? [Affirmative response

16 from the members.]

- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I remind you that you may not infer that the
- 18 accused is guilty of any offense from the fact that some evidence was
- 19 presented in closed trial sessions. You also may not reach any other
- 20 inference adverse to the accused from the fact that a session of the
- 21 trial was closed to the public. You must evaluate open and closed
- 22 session evidence and witnesses using the same standards.

- 1 Closed trial sessions to consider classified evidence are 2 the most satisfactory method for resolving the competing needs of the
- 3 government for the protection of purportedly classified information
- 4 and the rights of the accused to a public trial. You may not hold
- 5 the fact that there have been closed trial sessions in any way
- 6 against the accused. Closed trial sessions do not erode the
- 7 presumption of innocence which the law guarantees to the accused.
- 8 You have heard the testimony of Evan Kohlmann, Geoffrey Corn and
- 9 Brian Williams. These are known as expert witnesses because their
- 10 knowledge, skill, experience, training or education may assist you in
- 11 understanding the evidence or in determining a fact in issue. You
- 12 are not required to accept the testimony of an expert witness or give
- 13 it more weight than the testimony of an ordinary witness. You
- 14 should, however, consider their qualifications as experts.
- Only you, the members of the Court, determine the
- 16 credibility of the witnesses and what the facts of this case are. No
- 17 expert witness or other witness can testify that the period of armed
- 18 conflict between the United States and al Qaeda began on any
- 19 particular date. To the extent that you believe that Professor Corn
- 20 or Mr. Kohlmann testified or implied that they believe the armed
- 21 conflict began on a particular date, you may not consider this as
- 22 evidence that the armed conflict did in fact began on that date.

- 1 During the testimony of various witnesses who appeared
- 2 before you, they were asked whether they were aware of certain
- 3 matters counsel believed they should or might be aware of. These
- 4 were permissible questions. If the witness denied that they had
- 5 knowledge of the matters inquired into, there is no evidence before
- 6 you that those matters actually occurred. These questions were
- 7 permitted to test the basis of the witness' opinion and to enable you
- 8 to assess the weight to accord their testimony. You may not consider
- 9 the question for any other purpose.
- 10 You have heard evidence that before trial, various
- 11 witnesses made statements that may be inconsistent with their
- 12 testimony here in court. If you believe that an inconsistent
- 13 statement was made, you may consider the inconsistency in deciding
- 14 whether to believe that witness's in-court testimony. You may not
- 15 consider the earlier statements as evidence of the truth of the
- 16 matters contained in the prior statement. In other words, you may
- 17 only use them as one way of evaluating the witness's testimony in
- 18 court. You cannot use them as proof of anything else.
- 19 For example, if a witness testifies in court that the
- 20 traffic light was green and you heard evidence that the witness made
- 21 a prior statement that the traffic light was red, you may consider
- 22 that prior statement in evaluating the truth of the in-court

- 1 testimony. You may not, however, use the prior statement as proof
- 2 that the light was actually red.
- 3 You are further advised: first, that the accused is
- 4 presumed to be innocent until his guilt is established by legal and
- 5 competent evidence beyond a reasonable doubt; second, if there is a
- 6 reasonable doubt as to the guilt of the accused, that doubt must be
- 7 resolved in favor of the accused and he must be acquitted; third, if
- 8 there is a reasonable doubt as to the degree of guilt, that doubt
- 9 must be resolved in favor of the accused, in favor of the lower
- 10 degree of guilt as to which there is no reasonable doubt.
- 11 Finally, the burden of proof to establish the guilt of the
- 12 accused beyond a reasonable doubt is on the government. The burden
- 13 never shifts to the accused to establish his innocence or to disprove
- 14 the facts necessary to establish each element of each offense.
- The term "reasonable doubt" does not mean a fanciful or
- 16 ingenuous doubt or a conjecture, but an honest, conscientious doubt
- 17 suggested by the material evidence or lack of it in the case. It is
- 18 an honest misgiving generated by insufficiency of proof of guilt.
- 19 Proof beyond a reasonable doubt means proof to an evidentiary
- 20 certainty, although not necessarily to an absolute or mathematical
- 21 certainty. The proof must be such as to exclude not every hypothesis
- 22 or possibility of innocence, but every fair and rational hypothesis
- 23 except that of guilt.

- 1 The rule as to reasonable doubt extends to every element of
- 2 each offense, although each particular fact advanced by the
- 3 prosecution that is not an element need not be established beyond a
- 4 reasonable doubt. However, if on the whole evidence you are
- 5 satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt of the truth of each and every
- 6 element, then you should find the accused guilty.
- 7 Bear in mind that only matters properly before the Court as
- 8 a whole should be considered. In weighing and evaluating the
- 9 evidence, you are expected to use your own common sense, your
- 10 knowledge of human nature and your knowledge of the ways of the
- 11 world. In light of all the circumstances in this case, you should
- 12 consider the inherent probability or improbability of the evidence.
- Bear in mind you may properly believe one witness and
- 14 disbelieve several witnesses whose testimony conflicts with the one.
- 15 The final determination as to the weight or significance of the
- 16 evidence and the credibility of the witnesses in this case rests
- 17 solely upon you.
- 18 You must disregard any comment or statement or expression
- 19 made by me during the course of the trial that might seem to indicate
- 20 any opinion on my part as to whether the accused is guilty or not
- 21 guilty, since you alone have the responsibility to make that
- 22 determination. Each of you must impartially decide whether the

- 1 accused is guilty or not guilty according to the law I have given
- 2 you, the evidence admitted in court and your own conscience.
- 3 At this time, you will hear argument by counsel. As
- 4 counsel for the government has the burden of proof, the trial counsel
- 5 may open and close. Trial counsel's argument I am informed is
- 6 expected to be about an hour. Does anyone think we should take a
- 7 recess before we enter into a--I see several happy faces suggesting
- 8 that's a good idea. Why don't we take about a ten-minute recess and
- 9 return to hear the prosecutor's opening argument--closing argument?
- 10 BAILIFF: All rise [all persons did as directed].
- 11 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Sir, the prosecution has one other issue to
- 12 bring up outside the members----
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. [The members departed the courtroom.]
- 14 [The military commission terminated and the R.M.C. 803 session
- 15 commenced at 1045, 4 August 2008.]
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: All right. Please be seated [all persons did
- 17 as directed].
- 18 Do we have an issue to take up outside the presence of the
- 19 members?
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. In regards to the instructions
- 21 given--and I apologize, sir, I missed this. But in conspiracy to
- 22 attack civilians and conspiracy to attack civilian objects, the
- 23 military judge included "international armed conflict."

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I noticed that I had that in there in a
- 2 couple of places and not in other places. That was----
- 3 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: And I saw you corrected yourself--because
- 4 you had "international armed conflict" but only read "armed conflict"
- 5 in regard to murder in violation of the law of war.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I can easily correct that. I noticed
- 7 that as I was reading along with a couple of other--okay. Why don't
- 8 you highlight those and I'll just correct them to the members before
- 9 we start your argument?
- 10 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Anything else that I need to correct?
- [No response.]
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good. Let's take a recess.
- 14 [The R.M.C. 803 session recessed at 1046, 4 August 2008.]
- 15 [The R.M.C. 803 session was called to order at 1058, 4 August 2008.
- 16 All parties present when the commission recessed were once again
- 17 present.]
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I understand there might be another comment
- 19 about the instructions I need to hear before we call the members back
- 20 in.
- 21 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. In regards to murder in violation
- 22 of the law of war, sir, and how it was instructed, under the
- 23 definition of when a killing violates the law of war, it's correctly

- 1 stated, but it then neglects to state that if an unlawful combatant
- 2 were to kill a lawful combatant that that would also be a violation
- 3 of the law of war. That's consistent with filings that we have set
- 4 forth in the past based on our instructions and as well as our belief
- 5 that murder in violation of the law of war was, in fact, an offense
- 6 cognizable by the law of war.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, we took this up Saturday afternoon in
- 8 our argument and the defense provided me an affidavit by Professor
- 9 Schmidt and a citation to Dr. Dinstein's book, both of which I think
- 10 hold to the contrary. So I don't think I'll give that instruction.
- 11 Have I missed something?
- 12 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Well, we believe in order to---
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I mean, what they said is----
- 14 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: ----that if an unlawful combatant kills a
- 16 lawful combatant, that's murder that can be punished by the domestic
- 17 legal system of the detaining power, but it's not murder in violation
- 18 of the law of war. It's just a murder in violation of domestic law.
- 19 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: The U.S. government's position has always
- 20 been that it's both, sir; that per se--that unlawful belligerency is
- 21 a per se violation of the law of war. All of our prior filings in
- 22 regard to the bandits and how individuals were treated in the past
- 23 regarding individuals who were unlawful belligerents were that they

- 1 were summarily executed. That's consistent with our understanding
- 2 that it was a violation of the law of war for them to have been
- 3 belligerents that were unlawful to begin with. And the belligerent
- 4 requires an actual act of belligerency. It's not a status.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, I think it's too late for me to
- 6 give that instruction for you now. I believe you're wrong. I mean,
- 7 I believe that the defense's authorities are on point and on the
- 8 matter, so it's too late at this point, I think, to research it and
- 9 decide whether you're entitled to a different instruction. So I'll
- 10 advise the members that the word "international" doesn't need to
- 11 modify "armed conflict," and then we're ready to go with the closing
- 12 arguments, okay?
- 13 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you.
- 15 CDC [MR. MURPHY]: Your Honor, the government has slides as part
- 16 of its closing argument and would request that they be shown to all
- 17 counsel and the members during the presentation.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Sure. How many do you have?
- 19 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: They embed copies of evidence that has
- 20 already been admitted in this case.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very well.
- 22 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: And would ask that they also appear on the
- 23 large screen behind the witness box as well.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: That's fine. Okay. Let's call the members
- 2 back into the courtroom.
- 3 BAILIFF: All rise [all persons did as directed and the members
- 4 enter the courtroom].
- 5 [The R.M.C. 803 session terminated and the military commission
- 6 commenced 1100, 4 August 2008.]
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Please be seated [all persons did as
- 8 directed]. Thank you. The members have returned to the courtroom.
- 9 Members, in spite of my best efforts, I made a couple of
- 10 mistakes in the instructions. These all have to do with the element
- 11 that the agreement and the intended attack took place in the context
- 12 of and was associated with armed conflict. On a couple of occasions
- 13 I said "international armed conflict." That's not required. It's
- 14 only required that armed conflict exists. So I've gone through my
- 15 copy of the instructions, scratched out the word "international" and
- 16 if you find it elsewhere please disregard it as an incorrect
- 17 statement of the element.
- 18 Are there any other objections to the instructions as I
- 19 gave them that have not already been placed on the record? Guess
- 20 not from the government----
- 21 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: No, sir.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you.
- 23 DC [LCDR MIZER]: None from the defense, Your Honor.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I guess we're in the hands of Mr.
- 2 Murphy, then, for the government's closing argument.
- 3 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: Thank you, Your Honor, and I would request
- 4 that the screens, including the screens in front of the members, be
- 5 activated for some slides that I will have during the closing
- 6 argument.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 8 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: Mr. President and members of this military
- 9 commission: I want to begin first by thanking you for your time,
- 10 your attention, your patience during what has amounted to about two
- 11 weeks of trial.
- Now we turn to the argument in this case, in which I will
- 13 sum up the key facts that the government will assert should lead to
- 14 the conviction of this accused on each and every charge. You heard
- 15 my name briefly at the beginning of this case more than two weeks
- 16 ago. I'm John Murphy. I am an attorney with the Department of
- 17 Justice. I am a Navy Captain in the Naval Reserve and a Judge
- 18 Advocate.
- 19 Let's turn to my argument. In Charge I, Specification 1,
- 20 the accused is charged with entering an agreement with one or more of
- 21 the following persons--and there are five persons named in the charge
- 22 sheet, and you see pictures of the first two there: Usama bin Laden,

- 1 the senior al Qaeda leader, the emir of al Qaeda, the head of the
- 2 Shura Council and the world's most dangerous terrorist.
- To his right, Ayman al Zawahiri, Shura Council member, head
- 4 of the al Qaeda media committee. The other three: Saif al Adel,
- 5 Shura Council member, head of the security committee, head of the
- 6 bodyquard detachment, and Salim Hamdan's immediate boss in his body
- 7 guarding activities; Said al Masri, Shura Council member, head of the
- 8 finance committee; and Muhammad Atef, Shura Council member and head
- 9 of the military committee; as well as other members or associates
- 10 were charged who are known and unknown of the al Qaeda organization.
- How did this conspiracy begin? Well, you have learned that
- 12 the accused met an individual by the name of Muhammad bin Attash who
- 13 tried to help the accused go to fight jihad in Tajikistan, and when
- 14 the accused failed to get into Tajikistan, this same Muhammad bin
- 15 Attash helped the accused meet Usama bin Laden, and that was in or
- 16 about February, 1996. And it's important to remember the testimony
- 17 that even before the accused ever met bin Laden the accused was aware
- 18 of his goals and his aims of terrorism.
- 19 The accused met Usama bin Laden in Kandahar in 1996 and
- 20 agreed to join UBL and his followers, first as a driver on the farms
- 21 and a mechanic--that's the al Qaeda farms and an al Qaeda mechanic.
- 22 And at the time of their first meeting, Usama bin Laden noted that
- 23 the accused was from the Hadramout region. You may recall that's a

- 1 region that Usama bin Laden comes from himself, and immediately they
- 2 formed a special trust based on the tribal relationships in that
- 3 region.
- 4 As I mentioned, the accused was initially assigned to the
- 5 al Qaeda farms and he remained under the watchful eye of bin Laden
- 6 and Saif al Adel. And it wasn't but eight months later that this
- 7 accused was promoted within the al Qaeda organization, becoming a
- 8 full bin Laden bodyguard and a full member of the protective detail
- 9 of bin Laden where he remained until his capture. He pledged bayat
- 10 to Usama bin Laden, fully subscribing to the notion that he would
- 11 fight the crusaders, another term for American and coalition members,
- 12 that he would fight the Jews, that he would fight the West. The only
- 13 carve-out exception that he made was to fighting Muslim on Muslim,
- 14 but he was fully on board to fight everyone else.
- 15 What did he do in his protective duties as part of this
- 16 charged conspiracy? He provided protective convoy detail service.
- 17 Driving Hilux pick up trucks, he and the other bodyguards, using two-
- 18 way radios, Kalashnikov rifles, PK machine guns, RPGs were located in
- 19 the rear trail vehicle of his convoy. The accused himself carried a
- 20 Makarov handgun and was responsible for changing out convoy vehicles
- 21 periodically, and he obtained replacement vehicles at al Qaeda
- 22 guesthouses. He specifically understood that his duties as a driver
- 23 and bodyguard for al Qaeda, for Usama bin Laden, included driving

- 1 Usama bin Laden away to safety in the event the convoy came under
- 2 attack and that other bodyguards would engage the attackers.
- Now, I ask you for a moment to imagine that situation,
- 4 which unfortunately never happened; but had it happened, that convoy
- 5 would be driving along somewhere under attack, and one vehicle would
- 6 break away from the convoy. Pursuant to Hamdan's duty, he would
- 7 break away. And who would be in that vehicle driving al Qaeda to
- 8 safety? It would be this accused, Salim Hamdan, and Usama bin Laden.
- 9 This accused was al Qaeda's last line of defense should the convoy
- 10 come under attack.
- 11 This accused understood that Saif al Adel was in charge of
- 12 security, in fact, was chief of the bodyquards. And Hamdan did other
- 13 things in support of this charged conspiracy. He picked up weapons,
- 14 ammunition, and supplies from Taliban warehouses. In fact, Saif al
- 15 Adel gave him documents so that the accused could get weapons and
- 16 ammunition from Taliban warehouses and deliver them, where? Not to
- 17 the Taliban. To al Qaeda. And we are talking about weapons other
- 18 than the SA-7 missiles that we talked about a little while ago. You
- 19 have evidence that he transported other weapons, ammunition. And the
- 20 accused transported this material on Usama bin Laden's trucks, and he
- 21 transported them to Kandahar al Qaeda bases. And if you'll recall
- 22 the admissions in this regard, it was the accused's own decision to
- 23 transport these weapons and to bring them to the front.

1 What else has he done to show he is a full-fledged member 2 of this conspiracy? He trained. He trained at the al Farouq camp 3 that you heard about. He trained in various firearms. 4 sought out bin Laden's permission for weapons training. He provided armed bodyguard services to UBL and the al Qaeda leadership, and he 5 6 provided this when bin Laden gave speeches, press conferences. 7 fact, you heard about two of those press conferences, both occurring 8 in the year 1998. He took bin Laden and other al Qaeda members to 9 training camps, listening to the lectures, going to the media events. 10 This accused, as a coconspirator, heard the anti-American, 11 the anti-West, the anti-Jewish right rantings. And he knew even more 12 as a coconspirator. He was fully aware of the 1996 declaration of 13 war, a fatwa issued by Usama bin Laden. He was fully aware of the 14 declaration on America in 1998 by bin Laden and others. He was aware 15 of what both documents represented, and he remained within the 16 conspiracy knowing full well what the intent of al Qaeda was. 17 He was with bin Laden and Zawahiri at the all-important merger 18 of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad and al Qaeda, which occurred in 1998 at 19 Tarnak Farms, when the deadly al Qaeda organization was strengthened 20 through the merger of these two organizations. He saw it, he was there, he participated, he provided services. He was on board as a 21 22 coconspirator. He saw videos after attacks, knowing exactly what 23 happened as result of his contribution to this conspiracy. He saw

- 1 videos of the attack on East Africa and videos of the attack on the
- 2 USS COLE.
- 3 Did he abandon the conspiracy? Did he withdraw it? Did he
- 4 say he wanted no part of it? Absolutely not, because he was a full
- 5 member. He was in with his full weight of participation.
- And it's interesting. The accused's involvement with al
- 7 Qaeda runs even deeper than the vital services he provided to this
- 8 terror group. Even his personal life was merged with al Qaeda.
- 9 Usama bin Laden arranged a marriage for him. Specifically, the
- 10 accused married the sister of Jandal's wife, Jandal being another
- 11 bodyguard. And that played an important role in al Qaeda. It helped
- 12 cement loyalties. It helped keep him under control. It kept him
- 13 within the family. It kept him very much close to all the other
- 14 people in al Qaeda, including other bodyquards. And so significant
- 15 was this marriage within the al Qaeda family, if you will, that the
- 16 leader of al Qaeda himself, Usama bin Laden, hosted a wedding feast
- 17 for the accused, showing you just how close he was to the very top of
- 18 this terror pyramid.
- 19 In further support of this charge of conspiracy, you will
- 20 recall the testimony of Special Agent , NCIS Special Agent
- , and also FBI Special Agent , where they
- 22 testified that they showed the accused photos of bodyguards and other
- 23 members of al Qaeda. You saw that during the presentation. And this

- 1 accused identified many of those photos. He knew all of the key
- 2 players surrounding and protecting al Qaeda. You also saw the many
- 3 photos that former FBI Agent presented to the accused
- 4 showing many, many top leaders within the al Qaeda organization.
- 5 This accused identified them and had something to say about them. He
- 6 knew the organization. He knew it because he was a member. He knew
- 7 it because he was conspirator, as charged in Count 1.
- 8 He also knew other important facts, which shows you just
- 9 how ingrained he was into the organization. There was testimony that
- 10 he knew that Usama bin Laden personally approved terror operations.
- 11 He was present at lectures when Usama bin Laden talked about the need
- 12 for suicide bombers, for the war on America, for the duty of Muslims
- 13 to fight America, for the need for martyrs, for the need to remove
- 14 U.S. troops from Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan. He understood the
- 15 role of the al Qaeda farms under the finance committee, because he
- 16 started there. He went to the training camps to be a trained al
- 17 Qaeda warrior. He went to the guesthouses. He went to the media
- 18 propaganda. He went to every part of the organization, understood
- 19 it, remained, and helped.
- 20 He understood on the East Africa American embassy attacks
- 21 that UBL was going face to face, toe to toe with America, and that he
- 22 was uncertain of our response. He heard about Usama bin Laden's

- 1 reaction to 9/11, and the fact that far more victims were killed than
- 2 UBL ever thought possible. He knew all of that.
- 3 Charge I, Specification 1 continues: Conspiracy. To
- 4 commit one of more of the following offenses, Judge Allred has given
- 5 you the definitions of these terms. I won't belabor them by
- 6 repeating them here, but I will highlight them and say that the
- 7 evidence of attacking civilians is found in the East Africa and 9/11
- 8 attack. Attacking civilian objects, again, in East Africa and 9/11.
- 9 Murder in violation of the law of war, East Africa, the COLE, and
- 10 9/11. Destruction of property in violation of the law of war, East
- 11 Africa, COLE, and 9/11. And, terrorism, East Africa, USS COLE, and
- 12 9/11. Let's start by talking about what we know about each of those
- 13 attacks. Let's start with East Africa.
- 14 The accused was present at an al Qaeda press conference in
- 15 Khost prior to the East Africa operation. Just prior to the East
- 16 Africa attack in Kenya and in Tanzania, the accused knew something.
- 17 And this is a critical fact, a very critical fact. The accused knew
- 18 that an operation was about to proceed, and he knew that an operation
- 19 meant a terrorist attack. And you learned that specifically from two
- 20 key witnesses in this case, former FBI Special Agent and
- 21 current FBI Supervisory Special Agent
- What else did you learn? In addition to the fact that he
- 23 knew that terror was going to occur before it happened, you learned

- 1 that the accused participated in the evacuation of the Kandahar
- 2 compound before the attack. You learned that Saif al Adel told the
- 3 accused to fix cars and be ready to move soon. You learned that the
- 4 convoys of cars was assembled, with the help of this accused. You
- 5 learned that within that convoy was UBL, Uthman--that's UBL's son--
- 6 Abu Hamas. They were in the convoy. You learned that the movement
- 7 was going to be low key. The accused understood that this was the
- 8 first time UBL was going face to face with the United States, and the
- 9 group was uncertain as to what the U.S. response would be. The group
- 10 traveled to Kabul. Then, they returned to Kandahar. The accused
- 11 assisted in the preparation of and the moving of key leaders to
- 12 affect this attack.
- The accused later saw a video of the East Africa attack,
- 14 and he heard bin Laden and Abu Muhammad al Masri talk about the
- 15 attack. Did he withdraw from the conspiracy? Did he say, "I want
- 16 none of it"? Well, he certainly knew it was about to happen, and he
- 17 never withdrew.
- 18 Let's turn to the COLE. The accused was in Yemen when the COLE
- 19 was attacked. And, at first, you recall from the testimony, he
- 20 thought the attack was done by others. But then he learned that it
- 21 was an al Qaeda attack. And what was his first thought when he
- 22 learned it was an al Qaeda attack? He said, "I've got to get out of
- 23 Yemen. I've got leave this country. They might arrest me."

- 1 Absolutely they might arrest him, he's a member of al Qaeda, and it
- 2 is logical for him to think that authorities would pick him up. And
- 3 where did he go? He went back to his leader, Usama bin Laden.
- 4 Now, let's talk about 9/11, another act of war. And let me
- 5 highlight that each of these are acts of war, the East Africa attack,
- 6 an act of war; the COLE, an act of war; 9/11, an act of war. There's
- 7 an intricate pattern in which this accused helped in the preparation
- 8 of and the transportation of the leadership that made this possible.
- 9 They were on the move days before and after the attack. About seven
- 10 to ten days before the attack, the accused and al Qaeda leaders are
- 11 in Kandahar. Once again, just like East Africa, the accused knew
- 12 that an operation was about to happen. And, as you know from the
- 13 testimony of and , this accused fully
- 14 understood that an operation meant nothing other than a terrorist
- 15 attack.
- 16 Once again, UBL orders the evacuation of the Kandahar camp.
- 17 The accused responds. And you'll recall the map that's displayed on
- 18 the screen on the slide in miniature form of the many locations--
- 19 you'll see the enlarged original when you go back to your
- 20 deliberation--where the accused went with the al Qaeda leadership and
- 21 UBL. They went to Kabul and went to Muhammad Salah's house shortly
- 22 before the attack. They then went to a Kabul guesthouse shortly
- 23 after the attack and stayed at Emir Saadi Anas' house. They went to

- 1 Logar military camps where there were al Qaeda towns. They went to
- 2 Usama bin Laden's house in Jalalabad, a place called the Star of
- 3 Jihad camp. For two or three days they went to Kabul, and then for
- 4 two or three days more they went to Khost, then back to Kabul, then
- 5 back to Kandahar, then back to Kabul.
- All of these movements, shown in this detailed map, all
- 7 designed to assist the leaders in the execution of this attack. Take
- 8 a look at that map when you go back into deliberations. It tracks
- 9 through his valuable contribution to this conspiracy. And he does it
- 10 all knowing that an operation is about to unfold, an operation that
- 11 meant a terrorist attack.
- Going on to Specification 1. The accused knew the unlawful
- 13 purpose of the agreement. As Agent stated, he questioned
- 14 the accused about his attitude towards these attacks and his
- 15 attitudes generally towards assisting Usama bin Laden. The East
- 16 Africa attacks, the COLE attacks, and the 9/11 attacks. And what did
- 17 the accused say was his attitude towards these attacks and his role
- 18 in assisting Usama bin Laden? It was one of uncontrolled passion or
- 19 uncontrolled enthusiasm or uncontrolled zeal "among us," among the
- 20 group assembled. However you want to translate it. But that's how
- 21 he felt, and that was his attitudes towards working with UBL.
- When you evaluate this element on whether the accused knew
- 23 the unlawful purpose of the agreement, you should consider all of the

- 1 following: He secreted UBL and al Qaeda leadership. He hid them
- 2 from place to place. He armed himself. Others were working with him
- 3 who were also armed. He moved in convoys in low-key movements.
- 4 When he was finally captured--and this speaks to the
- 5 unlawful purpose--he avoided nearly every vital piece of information
- 6 about his activities. You saw that on the very rare glimpse you get
- 7 to see of someone who is captured on the battlefield. He resisted
- 8 providing information, on the capture video.
- 9 He also shows his unlawful purpose in other ways. You'll
- 10 recall these, the brevity cards. They are used to conceal the
- 11 activity of al Qaeda, and he had these at the time of his capture.
- Other things that show that he knew the unlawful purpose is
- 13 he learned of the terrible loss of innocent life in the East Africa,
- 14 COLE, and the 9/11 attacks. He knew of the tragic death of
- 15 thousands. He knew all of it. He saw it clearly as unlawful, and
- 16 yet he remained in the conspiracy. He was an al Qaeda warrior; and
- 17 criminal enterprises do not function or carry out their objectives of
- 18 their conspiracies without people like Salim Hamdan.
- 19 The accused knowingly committed at least one of the
- 20 following overt acts in order to accomplish some object or purpose of
- 21 the agreement. You see on that screen miniature versions of two
- 22 stills, the one on the left being the 1998 CNN video as we've termed

- 1 that video showing his bodyguard work, and on the right the January
- 2 2000 al-Fitr video showing him with a radio.
- 3 On the picture on the left, that really captures the
- 4 essence of the fact that he rose through the ranks from a simple farm
- 5 driver and mechanic, eight months later promoted, gaining the
- 6 confidence of UBL and Saif al Adel. You see it in that picture.
- 7 He's trusted with weapons. He's trusted with radios. He's trusted
- 8 to transport the most senior al Qaeda leadership and keep their
- 9 secrets. He's trusted to get replacement vehicles. He's trusted
- 10 with Usama bin Laden's life.
- 11 And as I intersperse Usama bin Laden's name and al Qaeda,
- 12 the organization, there should be no mistake; they are one and the
- 13 same. UBL is al Qaeda. By protecting UBL, he's protecting the
- 14 organization, the organization's head, inspiration, and leadership.
- 15 He is a key implementing officer necessary for any criminal
- 16 enterprise, necessary for any conspiracy.
- In the picture on the right with a radio, that's
- 18 significant to his driving activities. Although we didn't have a
- 19 picture of him driving a vehicle, you've learned during the testimony
- 20 that radios were integral to the moving of the convoys, and here you
- 21 see a picture of him with a radio in his hands. These two pictures
- 22 show, as far as overt acts, that he was fully aware of the goals and
- 23 objectives of al Qaeda and willingly played a vital role. And if UBL

- 1 was killed, if Hamdan was not successful in his conspiratorial
- 2 duties, the back of this terror organization most certainly would
- 3 have been broken.
- 4 This accused ensured the very survival of al Qaeda through
- 5 his participation in this conspiracy, and he was indeed the last line
- 6 of defense for al Qaeda leadership. He made al Qaeda's goals
- 7 achievable and, in the end, tragically, inevitable. He played a
- 8 central and important role in this conspiracy.
- 9 Let's talk about some other points under the conspiracy in
- 10 Specification 1, Charge I. He is charged with transporting and
- 11 delivering weapons, ammunition, and other supplies to members or
- 12 associates of al Oaeda. And one of the most important pieces of
- 13 evidence and that you'll see referenced in the slide, that's the pika
- 14 note, as we have come to call it. And the pika note was introduced
- 15 by Witness Number One and was translated to you right on the stand by
- 16 former FBI Agent , in which told you the letter
- 17 said, "Brother Sagr," the kunya, or nickname for Salim Hamdan, Sagr
- 18 al Jadawi. "Brother Saqr, my request, if you can, to send us pika
- 19 belts original Russian, about 25 to 30, 25 to 30 belts. Also if you
- 20 find pika magazines, because the best pika we have here has no
- 21 magazine and we are in necessity to it. Or even if you can, get a
- 22 magazine for Kirov, and here we can cut it, and fix it, and make it
- 23 for the pika at the garage. Please work as much as you can to do

- 1 this. Your brother, Khallad Jalalabad. If you can please find us a
- 2 military compass, three, number three"--that means quantity three--
- 3 "because they told us that you guys have it in Kabul, it's widely
- 4 available in Kabul."
- 5 He's a weapons transporter, and this is independent
- 6 evidence of it and it's part of the charged conspiracy.
- 7 As to the second bullet, driving Usama bin Laden to various
- 8 al Qaeda press conferences, you learned that he drove him to such
- 9 places as Tarnak Farms and the Al Farouq camp. You see Tarnak Farms
- 10 depicted on the photo there taken during the tour of Special Agent
- , also UBL's house also taken during the tour or mission with
- 12 Agent at an actual press conference. And, as I have
- 13 mentioned, he participated in the important al Qaeda conference of
- 14 the merger of EIJ and al Qaeda. Of course, you learned in the
- 15 testimony that he transported UBL to two separate 1998 press
- 16 conferences, and you also learned that he heard many, many lectures
- 17 to many different audiences about UBL's goals; and you heard, he went
- 18 to so many of them, he became bored.
- 19 And finally on this point, you may want to recall the
- 20 testimony of the FBI official who came here, who
- 21 described the extraordinary security precautions that typically take
- 22 place at UBL news conferences or press conferences or media events,
- 23 and all of the details about the camera and pat-downs and the secure

- 1 locations. These are the things that this accused did routinely as
- 2 part of this conspiracy.
- 3 He received weapons training at the al Farouq training
- 4 camp. In fact, he asked UBL for permission to train in firearms. He
- 5 took UBL to these camps where he took this training. He admitted to
- 6 weapons training in such weapons as AK-47 machine guns and other
- 7 weapons. He talked about the fact that there were no formal firing
- 8 ranges at the camps, and that he received instruction on RPGs and
- 9 participated in physical training. Perhaps the most detailed
- 10 testimony you received in this particular area on his training came
- 11 from Special Agent , who provided great detail about
- 12 his participation in training camps.
- 13 Let's talk about the issue of agreement under Charge I,
- 14 Specification 1. You can look at the agreement in support of our
- 15 report in several areas: His behavior; his own words; the fact that
- 16 he understood the operation meant terrorism; the fact that there was
- 17 a meeting of the minds between himself, Usama bin Laden, and other al
- 18 Qaeda members; and, that there was no formality to the agreement.
- 19 But you certainly may infer that the agreement existed based on all
- 20 of the circumstances, the most important of which probably being that
- 21 he knew, before East Africa and before 9/11, he knew an operation was
- 22 about to unfold. He participated. He understood that was terrorism.
- 23 He proved his agreement or understanding under the agreement by his

- 1 actions. And, most significantly, he never stopped performing under
- 2 this agreement, ever, until he was captured. And the agreement
- 3 lasted all the way from the time he met UBL, in early 1996, until he
- 4 was finally captured in November 2001.
- 5 Let's now talk about Specification 2 of Charge I. And
- 6 here, you should focus on the testimony of Major and Sergeant
- 7 Major A. What did you learn as a result of their testimony? You
- 8 learned that the U.S. forces were deployed in the Takteh-Pol region
- 9 of Afghanistan near Highway Number 4. There are about 16 U.S.
- 10 forces, about 600 to 700 Afghan fighters.
- 11 You learned through their testimony that three vehicles
- 12 were stopped at the checkpoint, gunfire was heard. Major went
- 13 to the vicinity of the checkpoint. He learned that a second vehicle
- 14 between two other vehicles was stopped. And Major saw the
- 15 accused led away from that area wearing sweater-type clothing, and
- 16 you have a picture of him and the capture video.
- 17 Both Major and Sergeant Major A at some point walked
- 18 over to the second vehicle and saw two SA-7s in this vehicle, a
- 19 hatchback, both of them describing it as silver or light color. And
- 20 the missiles were in this vehicle, and they consisted of missile
- 21 tubes and the missiles themselves.
- You also learned from Major that the SA-7 is not in
- 23 the Afghan inventory, and that the missiles themselves--here we have

- 1 a training mock-up--was missing something that's actually on this
- 2 mock-up that's significant. What was missing is this part here, the
- 3 trigger mechanism and the battery pack. But the tube and the
- 4 missiles themselves were in the car. The missing trigger mechanism
- 5 will become important in a moment when we talk about this further.
- 6 Major described that there were al Qaeda fighters in
- 7 the Takteh-Pol region, and that al Qaeda was attempting to defend
- 8 Takteh-Pol and Kandahar near the airport, also near al Qaeda's Tarnak
- 9 Farms. Major described these fighters, these al Qaeda
- 10 fighters, as tenacious.
- 11 Major also said that the battlefield in the area and
- 12 the airspace in the area was completely controlled by the United
- 13 States and coalition aircraft flying. The only possible target for
- 14 the SA-7s would be American and coalition aircraft and American and
- 15 coalition air crews.
- 16 What else did we learn from Major and Sergeant Major
- 17 A? We learned that the accused was captured, he was held, and that
- 18 Sergeant Major A seized from Hamdan's vehicle several important
- 19 things--one of which I hold in my hand right now: The brevity cards
- 20 --out of Hamdan's vehicle, also a Yemeni passport, as well as cash.
- 21 You saw the accused on his capture video. He was evasive, not fully
- 22 forthcoming, didn't do very much. Had he confessed within the first

- 1 24, 72 hours, he might have provided some tactical information, but
- 2 he did not. The interrogation stopped because it was going nowhere.
- 3 But he did make one admission, and you see it on the
- 4 screen. The accused, as part of the unlawful purpose of this second
- 5 conspiracy, in response to the question: And there were missiles
- 6 also in the car? He said, "Yes." And that's only one capture of the
- 7 video. You may recall that he said that several times during the
- 8 course of the video capture that was played in its entirety to you.
- 9 How do we know the accused knew the unlawful purpose of
- 10 this agreement, the second conspiracy, was unlawful? You can point
- 11 to several factors. He was highly evasive during the questioning.
- 12 He only begrudgingly admitted there were missiles in the car he was
- 13 driving. The fact that he admitted to having the missiles is
- 14 certainly no proof of innocence; it's proof of quilt. He possessed
- 15 the missiles and he transported them in a car; whether it was
- 16 borrowed or not, he was the one that had them.
- 17 He knew his actions were unlawful. You can conclude in
- 18 many ways by the way he answered the interrogators' questions. He
- 19 never once at any time listed any person on this plan who is
- 20 connected to him. He didn't say--in fact, he even said his family
- 21 didn't know he was in Afghanistan, would not identify another person
- 22 who we could locate was connected to him. He did say the car
- 23 belonged to an individual by the name of Abu Yasser in an effort to

- 1 distance himself from the missiles inside, and he did that, the
- 2 government would submit, because he knew the purpose of his agreement
- 3 and his conduct was unlawful.
- 4 The accused knowingly committed an overt act, that is,
- 5 transported one or more of the SA-7 surface-to-air missiles, in order
- 6 to accomplish some objective or purpose of the agreement. What was
- 7 the purpose of this agreement? It was plainly to get them to the
- 8 fighters that Major described in the area of Takteh-Pol, to get
- 9 them to al Qaeda, to get them to the al Qaeda forces. And he wanted
- 10 to get the missiles to some unknown coconspirator. And I return to
- 11 the point I mentioned a moment ago that I said would be significant,
- 12 the fact that the firing mechanism was missing. We've got the tubes,
- 13 we have the missiles. He had to link up to another unknown
- 14 coconspirator to get the firing mechanism, to get the battery pack in
- 15 order to launch these missiles. He also said if you'll recall the
- 16 testimony of Agent , that when he was captured, he was also
- 17 going return to UBL, his al Qaeda leader.
- Only the U.S. and coalition aircraft were in the skies at
- 19 the time of his capture. He joined this conspiracy with the object
- 20 to unlawfully and intentionally kill U.S. and coalition service
- 21 members. He joined this conspiracy with the object to commit murder
- 22 in violation of law and murder U.S. and coalition service members,
- 23 including pilots, aircrew, passengers. It's plain from his actions.

- 1 Now, let's talk about the agreement needed in this second
- 2 conspiracy. Once again, it's an agreement proved through his
- 3 behavior, his words, a meeting of minds. There's no formality needed
- 4 or required; and, it is based on all of the circumstances. You can
- 5 reach this conclusion that an agreement was made by his behavior, the
- 6 things he did, the things he possessed, and also the things he said
- 7 on the capture video.
- 8 You might also want to remember the testimony of Special
- 9 Agent , where the accused said to Agent at the
- 10 point of his capture that a weapon was with him, that he had a
- 11 weapon. But he didn't further describe it. He simply admitted to a
- weapon.
- 13 You might also remember the testimony of Special Agent
- 14 who reported that, when he talked with the accused,
- 15 the accused expressed concerns about November 2001, the time he was
- 16 captured, and he said that he was especially concerned about
- 17 airstrikes around Kandahar. That's an admission made to Agent
- by this accused. But he didn't volunteer anything about
- 19 the SA-7s to Agent or the other agents.
- The agreement is proved by his driving for al Qaeda,
- 21 defending frontlines at Takteh-Pol near the Kandahar airport, near
- 22 Tarnak Farms, that massive complex maintained by al Qaeda and bombed
- 23 by us, the need to meet up with the unknown coconspirator with the

- 1 trigger mechanism who could actually fire the weapon; bringing with
- 2 him the weapons permit that you recall was seized by Sergeant Major
- 3 A, needed to get through Taliban checkpoints, needed to effect his
- 4 role in the conspiracy; his possession of money by A, his carrying of
- 5 the brevity cards with him so he could coordinate with, who? With
- 6 his other coconspirators in this charged conspiracy. Brevity codes
- 7 needed to keep secret by coded number things such as weapons, weapon
- 8 systems, al Qaeda personnel, al Qaeda leaders, al Qaeda locations, al
- 9 Qaeda tactics. These brevity codes were the aid for this
- 10 coconspirator, Hamdan, to meet up with his other coconspirators to
- 11 affect this conspiracy.
- 12 Let's talk about Charge II. Now we are going move into a
- 13 series of material support charges. We have just completed the two
- 14 conspiracy charges. And before I get into the substance of my
- 15 discussion, let me just say as a general matter that this accused's
- 16 charge--or charges--for material support are textbook classic model
- 17 behavior for material support. If you are looking to check all the
- 18 boxes on what material support is, he checks just about every one.
- 19 And, as the Judge instructed you, you can look at these as root
- 20 charges; and, for the sake of efficiency, I'll do that in my
- 21 argument.

- 1 Providing material support for terrorists. We'll look
- 2 first at Specifications 1, 3, 5, and 7, then later we'll look at 2,
- 3 4, 6, and 8, as a group.
- 4 Providing material support. At the most basic level, he
- 5 provided himself--permitted under the MCA statute, he provided
- 6 himself as material support by attending training, attending training
- 7 camps, driving UBL, specifically driving him before; before East
- 8 Africa and after East Africa, before 9/11 and after 9/11, knowing an
- 9 operation was about to unfold, before it unfolded, as you know from
- 11 protective services, highly sophisticated movements, low-key
- 12 movements, stealthy convoy movements using radios. He was armed. He
- 13 had a plan to get UBL away if the convoy came under attack. He alone
- 14 would bring UBL to safety. He knew the other bodyquards, and he knew
- 15 that they would engage the attackers.
- He's not charged as a planner of the specific attacks, but
- 17 he provided the vital material support in preparation for these
- 18 multiple attacks. The accused's services helped carry out terrorism.
- 19 Remember Special Agent 's comment, one agreed to by
- 20 our expert witness, Mr. Evan Kohlmann, in which Special Agent
- 21 agreed that Hamdan and people like Hamdan helped UBL, helped him
- 22 become possible, helped him carry out his terror.

- 1 Now, specifically turning to the individual specifications.
- 2 Under Spec 1, the accused provided himself as an al Qaeda camp
- 3 trained member, driver, bodyguard, weapons transporter. Not just the
- 4 two SA-7 missiles that we have talked a great deal about, but he
- 5 brought other ammunition, weapons, supplies to the front. Those are
- 6 his words and his admissions, and, most interestingly in that regard,
- 7 at his own suggestion. You might recall when you heard that
- 8 testimony; he was the one who came up with the idea, "Let's get this
- 9 to the front."
- 10 Specification 5, providing transportation before and after
- 11 East Africa, before and after 9/11. The accused facilitated
- 12 communication by driving convoys in coordination with others and
- 13 using radio contact.
- 14 Specification 3, serving as a bodyquard, providing
- 15 protection, protecting al Qaeda leadership. The very inspiration of
- 16 al Qaeda, the very source of its power were protected by him, keeping
- 17 terror plotters alive to kill another day.
- 18 Specification 3 is now an attempt. It is now to be
- 19 considered by you as an attempt. Attempting to provide two SA-7
- 20 missiles and missile tubes in preparation for carrying out an act of
- 21 terrorism. He knew that these missiles were destined for U.S. and
- 22 coalition aircrews. We were the only ones in the air. He wanted to
- 23 get these missiles to the al Qaeda defenders in Kandahar. This

- 1 bayat-pledged al Qaeda warrior is now on the field, bringing the
- 2 weapons to the front.
- 3 Consider the testimony on this element of former FBI
- 4 Special Agent and Supervisory FBI Special Agent
- 5 most succinctly tells us, and accurately so:
- 6 Support terrorists, support terrorist acts. You can't get fewer
- 7 words to describe exactly what was happening here. And Agent
- 8 perhaps providing what might have been the most chilling comment
- 9 during the whole trial: Without people like Mr. Hamdan, bin Laden
- 10 would enjoy no support, enjoy no protection, and would probably have
- 11 been unable to elude capture up to this point. Think about that.
- 12 That's the role he played.
- 13 Material support for terrorism. Now we are going turn to
- 14 the next element under 1, 3, 5, and 7: The accused knew or intended
- 15 that the material support or resources were to be used for those
- 16 purposes. What purposes?
- 17 Spec 1. He knew that his training, driving, bodyguard
- 18 services, weapons transport were all to support terrorism. For that
- 19 purpose.
- 20 Spec 5. He knew that his transportation of UBL and other
- 21 senior al Qaeda members was all to support terrorism. For that
- 22 purpose.

- 1 Specification 7. He knew that his driving and protective
- 2 services were all intended to facilitate communication and planning
- 3 for terrorism.
- 4 Specification 3, now an attempt. The accused knew that his
- 5 transportation of the two SA-7 missiles was for the purpose of
- 6 attempting to use them for an act of terrorism.
- 7 The accused did all of this as a fully bayat-pledged inner
- 8 member of al Qaeda.
- 9 The conduct took place in the context of and was associated
- 10 with an armed conflict. All of this conduct, every bit of it, took
- 11 place in the context of and was associated with an armed conflict.
- 12 We know an armed conflict existed. It was a resort to force between
- 13 governmental authorities; that is, the United States and coalition
- 14 forces, and organized armed groups, al Qaeda. And as Judge Allred
- 15 read those instructions to you, focused on only the facts that
- 16 support these objective factors, all of the facts that I have
- 17 mentioned and you have heard during the trial, focused on the length,
- 18 the duration, the intensity of hostilities, the number killed, the
- 19 number wounded, property damage, statements made by al Qaeda
- 20 leadership. All of the information that was so well presented to you
- 21 in the al Qaeda plan, all of those support that this activity
- 22 occurred within the context of armed conflict.

- 1 Remember other factors that are enormously important in
- 2 this case. Remember that UBL issued a declaration of war in 1996,
- 3 and followed it up with a declaration against America in 1998. These
- 4 documents show you that al Qaeda declared war on the United States.
- 5 The U.S. was in a state of armed conflict with al Qaeda from at least
- 6 1996, if not before that date.
- 7 And don't get trapped into whether issuance of ROE, rules
- 8 of engagement, determine whether armed conflict exists or not.
- 9 That's not the only factor. There are others, the government would
- 10 argue, would be more important. Even the defense's own expert
- 11 witness, Professor Corn, said those other factors have to be
- 12 considered, especially the '96 and the '98 fatwas.
- 13 Turning to the specs. Spec 1. Training, bribing, acts of
- 14 bodyquard protection, transportation of weapons; all of that was done
- 15 while there was a resort to force between the U.S. and al Qaeda, and
- 16 when all of those other objective factors were present, clearly
- 17 present.
- 18 Spec 5. The accused served as a knowing and voluntary
- 19 driver before and after East Africa and 9/11, clear times of armed
- 20 conflict.
- 21 Spec 7. The accused transported UBL covering the time
- 22 period all the way from '96 to 2001, all during hostilities involving
- 23 East Africa, the COLE, 9/11, attacks, all periods of armed conflict.

- 1 And focus on the rhetoric, too. That's another factor that
- 2 Judge Allred said you can look at when he instructed you that you
- 3 could consider the statements of leaders. All through this time,
- 4 this accused heard UBL call for the total destruction of the West.
- 5 Al Qaeda can be taken at their word. They are at war with us, and
- 6 have been for a long time.
- 7 Let's turn to the next group, 2, 4, 6, and 8, providing
- 8 material support. The accused provided material support or resources
- 9 to an international terrorist organization engaged in hostilities
- 10 against the United States. The accused provided support or resources
- 11 to al Qaeda, certainly an international terrorist organization. The
- 12 accused knew he supported bin Laden and al Qaeda, who conducted
- 13 terrorist operations worldwide. The East Africa embassy attacks were
- 14 in Tanzania and Kenya; the COLE attack was in Yemen; 9/11, obviously
- 15 in the U.S., New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania. Al Qaeda
- 16 undisputedly and tragically is international in the scope of its
- 17 terror.
- 18 Spec 2. All of the accused's training, driving, body
- 19 guarding activity, weapons transport, all of that was done by the
- 20 accused fully understanding that he was working not for some local
- 21 organization but one that had international terror designs.

- 1 Spec 6. All the transportation by the accused was
- 2 conducted by Hamdan was conducted for UBL and al Qaeda engaged in
- 3 terrorist activities on an international scale.
- 4 Spec 8. The body guarding, all done knowing the
- 5 international scope of the organization. In fact, while he was body
- 6 guarding he heard about the international scope of al Qaeda in the
- 7 many speeches and lectures that he heard at training camps in which
- 8 bin Laden repeatedly said he was calling for the destruction of the
- 9 West on an international scale.
- 10 Now, on 4, Spec 4, now an attempt charge: Attempting to
- 11 provide SA-7s to al Qaeda. Al Qaeda certainly was operating as an
- 12 international terrorist organization at the time those missiles were
- 13 delivered.
- Now, keeping on with this set of 2, 4, 6, and 8, I would
- 15 like to focus specifically on Specification 4 and how it relates to
- 16 al Qaeda operating as an international operation worldwide.
- 17 Spec 4, Charge II really shows how fluid al Qaeda is as an
- 18 organization and how individuals can expand their roles and take on
- 19 greater responsibility. In Spec 4, with the arrow cut across the
- 20 organizational chart provided to us by , I'm attempting to
- 21 show how the accused breaks out of the bodyguard box, loosely defined
- 22 as a box in this very fluid organization, goes beyond his important

- 1 work as a bodyguard, and now is attempting to deliver two SA-7
- 2 missiles to al Qaeda.
- 3 This graphic shows you that his role was not confined but
- 4 expanded, and it expanded because the accused was entrusted to
- 5 transport these weapons for al Qaeda. He was heading to their
- 6 defensive lines, bringing them to the Takteh-Pol area near the
- 7 massive Tarnak Farms complex, saying to Agent that his plan
- 8 was to link up with Usama bin Laden. And he was clearly linking up
- 9 with someone who had a firing mechanism for the SA-7s to launch these
- 10 at our aircraft.
- 11 Al Qaeda meets all of the definitions of an international
- 12 terror organization.
- 13 Let's do the same type of analysis resulting from
- 14 Specification 2(d), dealing with weapons transport, weapons different
- 15 from the SA-7s.
- 16 The accused also supported UBL and al Qaeda by transporting
- 17 other military type supplies to al Qaeda. You learned that from
- 18 Agents , and Witness Number One, on the pika note.
- 19 This accused volunteered--and, remember, he volunteered--to bring
- 20 material to the al Qaeda frontlines. Beyond his own verbal
- 21 admission, we have the al Qaeda, the pika note that supports that, as
- 22 translated by , and I have read you what that says.

- 1 Again, as this graphic illustrates, he breaks out of the
- 2 bodyguard driving important box that he holds, and becomes part of
- 3 the al Qaeda frontline fighters as charged in Specification 2(d) of
- 4 Charge II. He played an important and a diverse role in al Qaeda.
- 5 Continuing on with Specifications 2, 4, 6, and 8. The
- 6 accused intended to provide such material support or resources to
- 7 such an international organization. He is a key member of bin
- 8 Laden's bodyquard attachment. He used two-way radios with others,
- 9 armed to the teeth: Kalashnikov rifles, PK machine guns, rocket-
- 10 propelled grenades. In the event that the convoy came under attack,
- 11 he was destined to drive UBL away.
- 12 And on the attempted SA-7 delivery, look at the capture
- 13 video. Consider the testimony of Major and Sergeant Major A.
- 14 He was part of a separate conspiracy there to get this missile and
- 15 this missile tube, two of them, to his al Qaeda fighters.
- And there is no indication, by the way, he belonged to any
- 17 other organization. He was al Qaeda, bayat-pledged, al Qaeda-
- 18 trained, al Qaeda-employed. He's al Qaeda, not anybody else.
- 19 Providing material support for terrorism, we continue with
- 20 2, 4, 6, and 8. And just look at the pictures to show how he knew
- 21 that such an organization engaged in terrorism. He went to Tarnak
- 22 Farms. Part of the expansion of al Qaeda occurred there with EIJ.
- 23 UBL's house is there. SA-7s, attempted delivery. Bodyguard,

- 1 transportation. Not just his words. You can look at the pictures
- 2 and they tell you what's going on. And, you can listen to all of the
- 3 agents who provided important information, specifically
- 4 . And consider all of this within
- 5 the context of the 1996 declaration of war against us and the 1998
- 6 declaration against America.
- 7 Continuing on. The accused knew such organization was
- 8 engaged in international terrorism. In addition to the previous
- 9 photos that you saw, consider these matters: They show how he moved
- 10 UBL at critical times during armed conflict, and that this terror
- 11 material support occurred in the context of and associated with armed
- 12 conflict. There was a conflict. There was a resort to armed forces
- 13 between our government and coalition authorities and al Qaeda.
- 14 Look at these factors: The length of that conflict, which
- 15 continues to this day; the duration, the intensity, the number
- 16 killed. The number of Americans alone numbered, what, close to 3,200
- 17 or about 3,200? The number of wounded. The property damage, which
- 18 is staggering when you look at the al Qaeda video. And, the clear
- 19 statements of al Qaeda leadership. It's proven dramatically in the
- 20 East Africa attack, and after East Africa the United States was able
- 21 to respond with airstrikes. It occurred before, during, and after
- 22 9/11, and was all within the context of a declaration going back to

- 1 '96. And, of course, following 9/11 the United States launched
- 2 Operation Enduring Freedom.
- 3 As it relates to Specification 4 of the attempt, you can
- 4 see the hostilities right in the pictures below. You see the plumes
- 5 of smoke from the rockets rising from al Qaeda in the Kandahar area.
- In closing, I would note that all of my comments and
- 7 inferences are drawn right from the facts. They are not coming from
- 8 me; they are coming from what you heard on the stand and the
- 9 documentary evidence that you see displayed before you.
- 10 What you learned, in addition to proving each and every
- 11 element of these charged offenses, is that al Qaeda had huge aims,
- 12 and aimed to take--literally, take down the West; to kill thousands,
- 13 and they have; to create economic havoc, and they have. And they
- 14 needed enthusiastic, uncontrollably enthusiastic warriors, like that
- 15 accused right there, Salim Hamdan. He's an al Qaeda warrior. He has
- 16 wounded, and the people he has worked with have wounded, the world.
- 17 Mr. President, members, you are the conscience of the
- 18 community, and you will judge these crimes that the government has
- 19 alleged. And we are confident that, when you return, you will return
- 20 a verdict of quilty. Thank you for your attention.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you, Mr. Murphy.
- Who is arguing for the defense?

- 1 DC [LCDR MIZER]: I'll be doing half of the argument, your
- 2 Honor.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Would you like to do half the argument before
- 4 lunch, and then take the other half after lunch, then?
- 5 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Yes, Your Honor.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 7 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Good morning, members. I'm Lieutenant
- 8 Commander Mizer. On behalf of Mr. Hamdan and the entire defense
- 9 team, I also would like to thank you for your time and attention
- 10 these past two weeks. It's been a long two weeks.
- 11 The facts in this case demonstrate exactly what Mr.
- 12 Schneider told you two weeks ago: Mr. Hamdan was a salaried employee
- 13 of Mr. Usama bin Laden, paid personally by Mr. bin Laden to drive Mr.
- 14 bin Laden where Mr. bin Laden told him to be driven. Mr. Hamdan, the
- 15 evidence reflects, didn't even know the ultimate destination of the
- 16 place he was to be driven, much less the details of planning or the
- 17 execution of any terrorist attacks as has just been suggested by the
- 18 government.
- 19 Merely being in the vicinity of a conspiracy, members, is
- 20 not a crime. There is no evidence in this case to suggest that Mr.
- 21 Hamdan was a member of the conspiracy, that he entered into an
- 22 agreement with Usama bin Laden to attack civilians, attack civilian
- 23 objects, commit murder in violation of the law of war, to destroy

- 1 property in violation of the law of war, and to commit terrorism.
- 2 That's the crime charged in Specification 1 of Charge I that you have
- 3 to find. Not that there wasn't the existence of a conspiracy. No
- 4 one in the defense is going say that there wasn't a conspiracy or
- 5 that those crimes were not horrific. But what there is no evidence
- 6 of is that Mr. Hamdan, the driver, was involved in the planning or
- 7 execution of that conspiracy. This is a classic case of guilt by
- 8 association.
- 9 How many times have you seen those photographs of Mr.
- 10 Hamdan, admittedly armed as a driver in Mr. bin Laden's presence? I
- 11 encourage you to go back and play those videotapes, members, because
- 12 if you blink, you are going miss Mr. Hamdan. And then the rest of
- 13 the videotape focuses on actual members of al Qaeda. Mr. Hamdan goes
- 14 through the film on the al-Fitr video for about two or three seconds,
- 15 and then the video zooms in on Mr. bin Laden and other actual members
- 16 of al Qaeda, not on the hired hands that drove Mr. bin Laden to that
- 17 video performance.
- 18 I'm going talk to you a little bit about the facts in this
- 19 case. I'm going to talk to you about the two charges under Charge I
- 20 or two specifications under Charge I, the conspiracy, and then Mr.
- 21 McMillan after lunch is going to talk to you about the material
- 22 support for terrorism.

- 1 Before discussing the facts, I must remind you that the
- 2 burden rests with the government to prove that Mr. Hamdan was
- 3 involved in any of these crimes beyond a reasonable doubt. The
- 4 government has failed to meet its burden in this case and failed to
- 5 prove that Mr. Hamdan was anything more than a salaried employee of
- 6 bin Laden.
- Members, you have Mr. Hamdan's passport from Yemen, which
- 8 indicates that during the five years that he was allegedly an al
- 9 Qaeda warrior, the last line of defense, in the words of the
- 10 government, for Mr. bin Laden, he twice left Mr. bin Laden, once for
- 11 several months to get married, another time to take his ailing
- 12 father-in-law on the Hajj. That suggests something less than a
- 13 hardened member of al Qaeda, but suggests something else, a salaried
- 14 employee. Someone that al Qaeda can do without, someone that Mr. bin
- 15 Laden himself can do without.
- 16 You heard testimony that Mr. Hamdan was captured with an
- 17 open plane ticket, a return plane ticket to Yemen. You have that in
- 18 evidence. It was inside his passport. Again, the al Qaeda warrior,
- 19 the last line of al Qaeda's defense, had a plane ticket home.
- 20 Special Agent testified that Mr. Hamdan had not seen
- 21 Usama bin Laden since October 7, 2001. And take a look at
- 22 Prosecution Exhibit 21. That's the map that Special Agent
- 23 created, which has the route that Mr. Hamdan drove Mr. bin Laden in

- 1 his capacity as Mr. bin Laden's aide/driver. It's 47 days that Mr.
- 2 bin Laden was outside of the presence of what the government calls
- 3 Mr. bin Laden and al Qaeda's last line of defense.
- 4 You heard testimony from Special Agent that
- 5 Mr. Hamdan trained with small arms at al Faroug training camp for 30
- 6 to 40 days, but that he became bored with it and wanted to go back to
- 7 the Kandahar guesthouse where he worked as a driver. That's the al
- 8 Qaeda warrior, the al Qaeda warrior that has no interest in small
- 9 arms and wants to go back and work in what is in essence a hotel.
- 10 Mr. Murphy made reference to Mr. Hamdan being bored with
- 11 Usama bin Laden's speeches, having really lost interest in these
- 12 repetitive speeches about jihad and terrorism.
- 13 Importantly, members, not one witness sat in that witness
- 14 box and told you that Mr. Hamdan ever fired a shot, that he ever saw
- 15 powder, ever smelled the smoke of any fight. Not one witness ever
- 16 testified that he was involved, importantly, in the planning or
- 17 execution of terrorist plots. And you'll remember that Mr. Schneider
- 18 and Mr. Swift asked agent after agent: Was he involved in the
- 19 planning or execution of terrorist plots? And the best that they
- 20 could come up with is he's involved somehow in the infrastructure of
- 21 al Qaeda. The crime charged before you under Charge I is not being
- 22 involved in the infrastructure of al Qaeda; it is conspiring to
- 23 commit murder, those offenses that I have already discussed with you.

- 1 There is no evidence that Mr. Hamdan entered into an agreement to
- 2 commit any act of terrorism.
- 3 Special Agent did tell you that Mr. Hamdan tried his
- 4 hand at farming at Tarnak Farms during some of that period. He drove
- 5 a water truck and other heavy equipment for Usama bin Laden and for
- 6 Usama bin Laden's commercial interests. And, ultimately, he served
- 7 as one of seven personal drivers for a period of approximately ten
- 8 months during this five-year period that is at issue in this case.
- 9 Members, it's important to note that Mr. Hamdan was paid a
- 10 salary directly from Usama bin Laden. You heard Special Agent
- 11 testify that the money went from Usama bin Laden's hand to
- 12 Mr. Hamdan's hand. He wasn't paid by an al Qaeda committee; he was
- 13 paid as a personal employee of Usama bin Laden.
- 14 Interestingly enough, Khalid Sheik Mohammed, if you read
- 15 his answer, says the exact same thing. He chides Mr. Hamdan for
- 16 being interested only in Usama bin Laden's money, not in jihad, as
- 17 Khalid Sheik Mohammed is, not in the war against the West. He was
- 18 only living for this life, according to Khalid Sheik Mohammed.
- 19 Professor Williams described the real al Qaeda when he
- 20 testified from Turkey, not what he calls the Wikipedia version of al
- 21 Qaeda, which you heard quite a bit about during these past two weeks.
- 22 He talked about not the version of al Qaeda that al Qaeda's
- 23 propaganda machine, As Sahab, puts out, but the real al Qaeda as it

- 1 existed in the fall of 2001, which included a collection of civilian
- 2 workers and a wall of frontline fighting force that Mr. McMillan is
- 3 going talk about in a little bit. Al Qaeda had employees, UBL had
- 4 employees, and in the fall of 2001, he was surrounding by a number of
- 5 doctors, nurses, teachers, cooks, and, yes, drivers like Mr. Hamdan.
- I want to talk with you for a few minutes about November
- 7 24, 2001, because we have heard quite a bit of testimony about that
- 8 from Major and Sergeant Major A. Mr. Hamdan drove his family
- 9 and another family to the Pakistan border that day. Interestingly
- 10 enough, again, KSM, who has not spoken with Mr. Hamdan since that
- 11 day, without prompting or suggestion describes exactly those same
- 12 factors. It was on the return trip that he was apprehended by Major
- 's forces.
- It's important to note, there was a loaded Kalashnikov on
- 15 the passenger seat of his car. You heard that through Special Agent
- 16 You have those statements in evidence. Mr. Hamdan never
- 17 brandished that weapon, never fired at his captors. That's the al
- 18 Qaeda warrior, al Qaeda's last line of defense. He ran away and hid
- 19 in a ditch. Major called the al Qaeda individuals at that
- 20 roadblock that day "dead-enders." They'd rather fight to the death
- 21 than actually be taken alive.
- Compare Mr. Hamdan's actions at the roadblock to the action
- 23 of the other Arabs that were stopped at that checkpoint that day.

- 1 You heard evidence about a first car. The Arab in that car was
- 2 surrounded, pulled a pin on a grenade to kill himself and those who
- 3 would have been arresting him, fought to the death. Mr. Hamdan was
- 4 in the second car, a loaded gun, two SA-7 missiles, apparently, and
- 5 he ran away. A third vehicle arrives, three Arabs in that vehicle, a
- 6 gun battle breaks out. Two of the Arabs are killed, a third Arab,
- 7 Said Boujaadia, was captured. It's important to note Mr. Hamdan is
- 8 not an al Qaeda warrior; he is not al Qaeda's last line of defense.
- 9 He is not even a member of al Oaeda.
- 10 You heard testimony from Sergeant Major A and Major
- 11 that there were missile components in Mr. Hamdan's car, a white
- 12 Toyota Corolla, as Sergeant Major A testified to. Many of the
- 13 documents in the car included the raw materials for the manufacture
- 14 of passports and forged documents. You heard the testimony about
- 15 these photograph pictures and a number of al Qaeda related document,
- 16 including the brevity cards that the government has made so much of.
- 17 Let's talk about the interrogation tape. I want to tell
- 18 you that Mr. Hamdan largely tells the truth on that interrogation
- 19 tape. He gives his interrogators his real name. He gives them the
- 20 names of his daughter and his wife. The interrogator for some reason
- 21 doesn't believe that his daughter's name is Fatima and his wife's
- 22 name is Saboura, and they go through this through much of the
- 23 interrogation. He tells the interrogators that the car belongs to

- 1 Abu Yasser. Now, Special Agent testified that Abu Yasser is a
- 2 high-ranking member of al Qaeda, one of their main facilitators, a
- 3 travel agent, if you will, who forges documents and moves people in
- 4 and out of the country. Remember what's found in the car, the
- 5 components of forgery, forged documents and the tradecraft, if you
- 6 will, of Abu Yasser.
- 7 Mr. Hamdan tells you on the videotape that there were
- 8 missiles in the car but that the missiles were not his. He
- 9 describes, if you go back and watch the tape, the conversation where,
- 10 when he leaves Kandahar, he describes the conversation with Abu
- 11 Yasser and he says, "There's missiles in the car," and Yasser's
- 12 response is, apparently, "Don't worry about it. The papers are in
- 13 the car." And Mr. Hamdan then leaves with those missiles, leaves
- 14 Kandahar with those missiles in the trunk of the white Toyota
- 15 Corolla.
- 16 I'll turn back to the missiles in a moment, but the only
- 17 thing that Mr. Hamdan lies about in that situation, in that videotape
- 18 is who his employer was. And, honestly, can you blame him? He saw
- 19 one Arab gunned down after he attempted to pull a hand grenade, and
- 20 he's being led around in chains. You saw the chains and with a bag
- 21 over his head. And just imagine what Mr. Hamdan thought when he's
- 22 put on his knees with the bag over his head in the presence of armed
- 23 men, having seen what this Afghan force had done. And you heard the

- 1 testimony of Sergeant Major A and Major who testified that they
- 2 were supposed to remain out of sight, and it really was the
- 3 appearance that this was an Afghan force. Major testified that
- 4 he had to intervene because he thought the Afghans wanted to kill Mr.
- 5 Hamdan. There's a lot of racial hatred between Arabs and these
- 6 Afghans. They consider them foreigners. Mr. Hamdan was right to
- 7 fear for his life.
- 8 What did Colonel testify to? He said that Mr. Hamdan
- 9 had at Bagram said, "Please don't rape my wife and kill my family."
- 10 That's indicative of Mr. Hamdan's state of mind and why he's not
- 11 going to volunteer that he's a salaried employee of Usama bin Laden.
- 12 But look what happens once he's assured by Colonel and those
- 13 individuals at Bagram Air Base, when he's assured that he's not going
- 14 to be harmed----
- 15 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Commander Mizer.
- 16 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Yes, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I just want to remind you that Colonel
- 18 testimony was in a closed session.
- 19 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Yes, Your Honor. I don't intend to stray into
- 20 anything that is classified. I don't believe that that statement was
- 21 classified, and I am going to not refer specifically to any of the
- 22 details of what is classified.
- 23 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you.

- DC [LCDR MIZER]: I want to discuss, as I just said, what is
- 2 contained in Defense Exhibits I through Y, 17 documents that you
- 3 have. Look at the information that Mr. Hamdan provided to the United
- 4 States when it mattered most, critical details.
- I would like to focus your attention specifically to
- 6 Defendant's Exhibit W, paragraph 2. It deals with weaponry. You'll
- 7 also note the significant offer of cooperation that Mr. Hamdan made
- 8 while he was at Bagram. Again, I'm not going have the government
- 9 close this courtroom; you know what Mr. Hamdan agreed to do. You
- 10 know what happened, that we squandered that opportunity, not Mr.
- 11 Hamdan.
- 12 Your Honor, I would ask that this picture, which is Defense
- 13 Exhibit 6, be published to the gallery and to the members?
- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You may. Have we got this up? Good.
- DC [LCDR MIZER]: How do we know he would have cooperated?
- 16 Excuse me. Defense Exhibit C. How do we know he would have
- 17 cooperated? There's Mr. Hamdan leading U.S. forces on one of two
- 18 trips around Kandahar, showing the United States where bin Laden's
- 19 safe houses were, where bin Laden's guesthouses were, showing us,
- 20 providing us with valuable information. Remember what Special Agent
- 21 testified about; Mr. Hamdan offered to testify on behalf of
- 22 the U.S. government against Nashiri, one of the most dangerous and
- 23 wanted terrorists in the world, according to the government's

- 1 witnesses. He described how Mr. Hamdan hugged him tearfully good-bye
- 2 at the end of their meeting.
- Members, I focus on the cooperation because it's relevant
- 4 to show Mr. Hamdan's intent to be involved in the conspiracy or to
- 5 participate in the support of al Qaeda, which, again, Mr. McMillan is
- 6 going to discuss very briefly. This type of cooperation suggests
- 7 that Mr. Hamdan never intended to materially support terrorism, never
- 8 intended to agree to commit any terrorist acts, an agreement that you
- 9 have no evidence of. He is a salaried employee that, once captured
- 10 by the United States, says, absolutely, "I'll help you out."
- Now, you have heard a lot of people talking about the word
- 12 "conspiracy" in the broadest of possible terms. I want you to focus,
- 13 members, if you would, on the legal elements of conspiracy.
- 14 For Specification 1, the government must prove beyond a
- 15 reasonable doubt that Mr. Hamdan entered into an agreement with the
- 16 top leadership of al Qaeda to attack civilians, to attack civilian
- 17 objects, and to commit murder in violation of the law of war, to
- 18 destroy property in violation of the law of war, and to commit
- 19 terrorism.
- What evidence is there that Mr. Hamdan entered into an
- 21 agreement? There is evidence that there was an agreement, but
- 22 nothing to suggest that Mr. Hamdan was involved in that agreement.

- 1 The second element requires that Mr. Hamdan had known the
- 2 purpose of the agreement, and joined willfully with the intent to
- 3 further the unlawful purpose. What evidence, not only of Mr.
- 4 Hamdan's participation in an agreement--what evidence is there that
- 5 Mr. Hamdan intended to murder anyone? What evidence is there that he
- 6 intended to attack civilians, attack civilian objects, those same
- 7 elements that the government has to prove beyond a reasonable doubt
- 8 in Specification 1 of Charge I?
- 9 And, finally, Mr. Hamdan must have done an overt act for
- 10 the purpose of bringing about the object of the conspiracy. Mr.
- 11 Hamdan had to do something to make those attacks possible. And what
- 12 did he do, the actual acts? Not one witness testified that he had
- 13 any part in the execution of the terrorist acts themselves. Again,
- 14 the best they can do is say that he's part of infrastructure. Part
- of infrastructure, members, is not good enough to convict someone of
- 16 some of the most heinous crimes that this country has ever
- 17 experienced.
- 18 The government makes much about this bayat. I think it's
- 19 interesting, after Mr. Hamdan helps us for almost two years, that
- 20 they send down a team of two agents with the prosecutor to try to
- 21 extract something that they can build a criminal case against Mr.
- 22 Hamdan. Remember the first time they get his statement that Mr.
- 23 Hamdan swore bayat.

- Bayat, we heard from Evan Kohlmann, is a loyalty oath to a
- 2 Muslim leader within a tribal society, something that Mr. Hamdan
- 3 would do back in the Hadramout, not an oath to al Qaeda. He pledged
- 4 his allegiance to his boss. And we can't make this into now an
- 5 agreement to participate in terrorist attacks, an agreement to commit
- 6 murder. What about that bayat says, yes, Usama, I will help you
- 7 murder women and children; I will help you attack embassies; I will
- 8 help you commit the crimes of 9/11? In fact, it's a conditional
- 9 bayat: I will work for you as long as--there's some discussion about
- 10 expelling the crusaders from Saudi Arabia and a statement about
- 11 Israel.
- 12 So if an attack has been charged here that involves either
- one of those places, it's no broader than that. There's no agreement
- 14 to attack the United States. There's no agreement to attack
- 15 embassies in Africa. There's no oath involving in any of those
- 16 things, even if it was a substitute foreign agreement.
- 17 Khalid Sheik Mohammed tells you that he is, in his mind,
- 18 the executive director of 9/11, and again says he never would have
- 19 involved someone like Mr. Hamdan in an operation like 9/11. He's a
- 20 Bedouin. He insults him. He says, "I never--do you think I'm an
- 21 idiot? I wouldn't involve a driver in these operations." And you
- 22 know that that's correct because of the secrecy needed to pull off an
- 23 operation like 9/11. If every garage mechanic and driver associated

- 1 with al Qaeda knew the details and was involved in the planning and
- 2 execution of these attacks, it never would have happened. Khalid
- 3 Sheik Mohammed tells you that these operations, to succeed, needed
- 4 secrecy from counterintelligence such as the CIA.
- 5 Members, the government has 270 men, approximately--the
- 6 exact number is secret--here at Guantanamo Bay, and they brought to
- 7 you not one of those individuals to tell you that Mr. Hamdan was a
- 8 member of al Qaeda, that he was involved in the planning or execution
- 9 of those attacks. We have some of the members who are accused of
- 10 being involved in the planning and execution of those attacks just a
- 11 few miles away from here, and not one of them made an appearance.
- 12 The defense had to try to get those witnesses in here, and they
- 13 boldly and proudly tell you that, "I'm a member of al Qaeda. I was
- 14 involved in the conspiracy, but this guy was not." That's the proof
- 15 that Mr. Hamdan was not involved in this agreement, he was not
- 16 involved in the planning and execution of terrorist attacks. And
- 17 that's remarkably consistent with the ten law enforcement agents that
- 18 the government did bring in here. Mr. Hamdan was not involved in the
- 19 planning and execution of terrorist attacks. That is the very
- 20 essence of the conspiracy.
- If he's not involved in the agreement, if he's not involved
- 22 in the planning and he didn't help carry it out, then why are we even
- 23 here dealing with the charge of conspiracy involving Mr. Hamdan?

- 1 Special Agent said that Mr. Hamdan just wanted a
- 2 job and never sought to join al Qaeda. His words? General's driver.
- 3 "We have the general's driver." Just because Mr. Hamdan knew that
- 4 there was going to be an operation, had some vague notions as to what
- 5 an operation was going to be doesn't mean that he was involved as the
- 6 general's driver in that conspiracy.
- What did Mr. Murphy tell you about the COLE conspiracy?
- 8 Mr. Murphy told you, quite accurately, that Mr. Hamdan thought the
- 9 Israeli Mossad was responsible for the COLE conspiracy. Does that
- 10 sound like the words of a coconspirator, someone who has agreed to
- 11 attack the USS COLE, someone who has helped achieve that attack? It
- 12 does not.
- 13 Even if somehow under the broadest terms you could construe
- 14 bayat as an agreement to participate in murder, you'll still fail the
- 15 remaining two elements. Mr. Hamdan never had an intent to murder.
- 16 He never took an action directly to assist in murder. KSM talks
- 17 about Mr. Hamdan changing lug nuts and oil filters, and the
- 18 government would have you believe that that was done with an intent
- 19 to murder, he drove Mr. bin Laden with an intent to murder, and there
- 20 is simply no evidence that that was the case. All of the evidence
- 21 suggests that Mr. Hamdan was an employee who at times carried a gun
- 22 for Mr. bin Laden but was still an employee nonetheless, not a

- 1 hardened ideologue, not an al Qaeda warrior, certainly not the last
- 2 line of al Qaeda's defense.
- 3 The prosecution has similarly failed to prove any of the
- 4 elements of the second specification, conspiracy to commit murder in
- 5 violation of the law of war. There is evidence that suggests that
- 6 there were these missiles in a white Toyota Corolla. Members, it's
- 7 not a crime to possess missiles in October and November of 2001. In
- 8 fact, the Judge has given you the instruction that the Taliban was
- 9 the lawful government of Afghanistan, and Mr. Hamdan was captured
- 10 with a permit authorizing him to transport weapons. The crime before
- 11 you is not wrongfully possessing SA-7 missiles.
- Mr. Hamdan tells you on that video interrogation that he
- 13 asked Abu Yasser about, "Hey, what am I supposed to do about the
- 14 missiles in the backseat of the Toyota Corolla?" Again, Abu Yasser's
- 15 response was, "The papers are in the car, don't worry about it." We
- 16 have that paper, it's Prosecution Exhibit 17, that weapons permit on
- 17 Taliban letterhead signed by Mullah Omar.
- 18 Evan Kohlmann testified that the senior leadership of al
- 19 Qaeda usually carried anti-aircraft missiles in their cars. We know
- 20 that Abu Yasser was a senior member of al Qaeda. We know that from
- 21 Special Agent . Remember Colonel ' testimony on
- 22 this part. I can't say anything more than that but remember what he
- 23 talked about with respect to the armament. Look at the SECRET

- 1 exhibits dealing with what was contained in Usama bin Laden's
- 2 convoys.
- 3 Special Agent tells you that Usama bin Laden
- 4 frequently traveled in a white Toyota Corolla. Members, I submit to
- 5 you that what we captured on November 24, 2001 was a car that
- 6 belonged to Abu Yasser. It was also a car that was frequently
- 7 utilized by Usama bin Laden in movement of convoys, convoys that
- 8 would have contained SA-7 missiles. We don't even know how long
- 9 those missile components--and, again, as Mr. Murphy quite accurately
- 10 pointed out, all that was in the car were tubes. The battery pack
- 11 wasn't in there and neither was the launcher system. We don't know
- 12 how long those missiles were even in that car. The crime isn't
- 13 possession of missiles; it's transporting those missiles as part of a
- 14 conspiracy to commit murder in violation of the law of war.
- The prosecution asks you, in essence, to infer every
- 16 element of Specification 2 of the conspiracy that he was transporting
- 17 those missiles at all. He certainly was transporting them, but was
- 18 he delivering them to a coconspirator to commit murder in violation
- 19 of the law of war? And the only evidence that you have before you
- 20 suggests that he was riding in a car that had missiles in it.
- 21 There's not one piece of evidence that suggests that there was a
- 22 conspiracy.

- 1 Your Honor, these are the instructions. I would just ask
- 2 that these be published to the members and to the gallery.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Certainly.
- 4 DC [LCDR MIZER]: Focus on the elements, members. The
- 5 prosecution would ask you to gloss over the elements, but under the
- 6 definition of a killing in violation of the law of war you see what
- 7 it takes to kill someone in violation of the law of war. You must be
- 8 killing civilians not taking active part in the hostilities; military
- 9 personnel placed hors de combat by sickness, wounds, or detention; or
- 10 military medical or religious personnel, not simply allied airmen.
- 11 It has to be one of those three categories.
- What evidence is there on this record before you that Mr.
- 13 Hamdan was taking those missiles to anyone, much less to some unknown
- 14 plot to kill civilians, to kill wounded service members, or to kill
- 15 medical or religious personnel? That's murder in violation of the
- 16 law of war, and there simply isn't any evidence. It's not a crime to
- 17 shoot a coalition aircraft. And Mr. McMillan is going talk about
- 18 that in greater depth after lunch. The enemy is allowed to shoot at
- 19 us, so long as they abide by the laws of war. You heard the
- 20 testimony of Professor Williams, that there was a frontline fighting
- 21 unit, a fighting unit that was decimated by coalition airpower.
- In conclusion, members, we will capture or kill Usama bin
- 23 Laden. We are going to do it with the help of people like Mr.

- 1 Hamdan. You should not punish the general's driver today for the
- 2 crimes of the general. Thank you for your time.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Lieutenant Commander Mizer, I noticed you
- 4 looking at your watch during that presentation. I didn't mean to
- 5 suggest you had to finish by 1230.
- 6 DC [LCDR MIZER]: It's fine, Your Honor.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: But I don't want--I'm sorry?
- 8 DC [LCDR MIZER]: That's fine.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You had all the time you needed?
- 10 DC [LCDR MIZER]: In 30 minutes I said everything that I needed
- 11 to say, and we'll take up Mr. McMillan's argument right after the
- 12 lunch break.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Fair enough. Okay. Members of the Court,
- 14 why don't we recess then until 1400, and continue with the defense's
- 15 closing argument.
- 16 [The military commission recessed at 1237, 4 August 2008.]
- 17 [The R.M.C. 803 session was called to order at 1403, 4 August 2008.]
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order in the absence of
- 19 the members.
- I understand there's a request from the government that we
- 21 need to address before calling the members back into the courtroom.
- 22 Mr. Trivett.

- 1 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. Although admittedly inarticulate
- 2 in my last argument regarding the source of law that allows for the
- 3 proposition that lawful combatants are protected under the statute
- 4 against having been murdered by an unlawful enemy combatant; although
- 5 I cited to some of our prior filings in regard to this, I failed to
- 6 cite to the only source of law that should matter to this Commission,
- 7 and that's the Military Commissions Act and the manual that follows.
- 8 It sets forth clearly that lawful combatants are protected
- 9 from murder by an unlawful enemy combatant. Clearly, under the
- 10 statute an individual -- and I think Lieutenant Commander Mizer got it
- 11 right, that our combatants can be targeted if in fact they're
- 12 targeted in a lawful way. However, our combatants are also protected
- 13 under the statute if they are targeted in an unlawful way. So in no
- 14 way is their status as a combatant----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Excuse me, just a minute.
- 16 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I beg your pardon.
- 18 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. In no way does their status as a
- 19 combatant take them out of the protections offered under the murder
- 20 statute.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You are referring to Military Commissions Act
- 22 Section 915v.
- 23 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Where is it?
- 2 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: It is----
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Fifteen. Murder in violation of the law of
- 4 war.
- 5 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Correct.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 7 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: And it clearly states that any person
- 8 subject to this chapter, which would be in an unlawful enemy
- 9 combatant.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 11 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Who intentionally kills one or more persons,
- 12 including lawful combatants, which is the government's position in
- 13 this case, is that our allied armed forces over Afghanistan were in
- 14 fact lawful combatants.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 16 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: If they were targeted in a way which would
- 17 violate the law of war, that they would be protected under this
- 18 statute. We think that the Military Commissions Act is very clear on
- 19 that, and the Manual for Military Commissions is consistent with that
- as well.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I think that's precisely what Professor
- 22 Schmidt says in his affidavit.

- 1 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Which was not provided to the government,
- 2 sir.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I beg your pardon. Then you have not seen
- 4 this? It was given to the Court on Saturday when we discussed----
- 5 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: No, sir.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, Professor Schmidt is a world-
- 7 class scholar in the law of armed conflict, who just finished a year
- 8 as the Stockton Chair of International Law at the Naval War College
- 9 and filed this affidavit a couple of years ago, actually, with the
- 10 defense of----
- 11 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Was it prior to the Military Commissions
- 12 Act, sir?
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: It probably was. 2004 is when he filed the
- 14 affidavit in the case of----
- 15 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Which would render it moot, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: ----David Hicks.
- 17 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: That would render that affidavit moot.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, that's the problem. He's describing
- 19 here what the international law of war says about murder by an
- 20 unprivileged belligerent, which is precisely the case that we have
- 21 here. And he says things such as: The offense of murder by an
- 22 unprivileged belligerent, what we are calling an unlawful combatant,
- 23 is likewise absent from the law of armed conflict, although the

- 1 underlying conduct could constitute an offense if the victim was
- 2 either a civilian who had not lost his or her immunity from attack,
- 3 or a combatant protected under the law of armed conflict such as
- 4 those who have surrendered or are otherwise hors de combat. I'm not
- 5 sure if that's the French pronunciation. But, I mean, what Professor
- 6 Schmidt says here is that there is no offense under the law of war of
- 7 murdering a lawful combatant.
- 8 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Unless it's done in an unlawful way, such as
- 10 a way that inflicts undue suffering or uses a prohibited weapon, or
- 11 after they have entered one of these protected statuses such as hors
- 12 de combat, surrendered, wounded, not carrying on the fight,
- 13 shipwrecked, parachuted from a disabled aircraft. It concludes this
- 14 section--I'm not sure if this is his conclusion: "Simply put, it is
- 15 not a violation of the law of armed conflict to kill a combatant,
- 16 even when the individual doing so lacks the combatant privilege to
- 17 use force."
- 18 What it does is it strips the unlawful combatant of the
- 19 immunity that subjects him to trial by the domestic code of the state
- 20 that's detaining him.
- 21 So turning to the statute, it says: "Any person subject to
- 22 this chapter--that would be an unlawful combatant--who intentionally

- 1 kills one or more persons, including lawful combatants, in violation
- 2 of the law of war shall be punished."
- 3 And so what Professor Schmidt's affidavit does and what
- 4 Professor Dinstein's book does is describe the prohibitions under the
- 5 law of war against killing lawful or lawful combatants. So I think
- 6 the instruction I gave is still correct.
- 7 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: The prosecution respectfully disagrees, sir.
- 8 If I can give a little bit of background on this.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 10 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Having been a prosecutor here for now five
- 11 years, under the first system, under Military Commissions Instruction
- 12 Number 2, the President has listed out what he felt was the accurate
- 13 representation of violations of the laws of war. Now, that was going
- 14 to be hotly litigated between the prosecution and the defense, and
- 15 both sides sought evidence of whether or not in fact something
- 16 existed under the violation of the law of war, you know, prior to the
- 17 Military Commissions Act. However, Under Article I, Section 8,
- 18 Congress has the authority to define and punish offenses against the
- 19 law of war.
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 21 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: This was put in detail in the Hamdan
- 22 decision as well, where the plurality said that conspiracy is not a
- 23 violation of the law of war absent a Congressional finding that it

- 1 is. I can't find evidence that it's not. Clearly, Congress spoke to
- 2 this in regard to conspiracy under their Article I, Section 8
- 3 authority and said, yes, in fact, conspiracy is a violation of the
- 4 law of the war. They also did that in regard to murder in violation
- 5 of the law of war.
- That's why I asked your Honor when that was dated, because
- 7 that may have been legitimate evidence based on litigation when there
- 8 was no certainty from Congress on what a violation of the law of war
- 9 is. However, after October 2006, it's crystal clear, and Congress
- 10 has determined in fact in the Military Commissions Act, that
- 11 murdering lawful combatants by unprivileged belligerents is a
- 12 violation of the law of war. That's their constitutional duty and
- 13 prerogative to do so, and they have done so.
- 14 So while the prosecution certainly apologizes for not
- 15 catching this earlier, in the end, the positions that we articulated
- 16 on the 802 on Saturday and then earlier today still remain: That
- 17 Congress has spoken on this issue, and the Military Commissions Act
- 18 is the law, and this Commission is bound to follow the law.
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I agree with you wholeheartedly with the
- 20 last, but we have got a dispute about what Congress said. The
- 21 statute they passed criminalizes murder that violates the law of war.
- 22 Professor Schmidt's affidavit doesn't discuss the first or the second
- 23 Military Commissions Acts, or whatever they were called, nor does it

- 1 discuss the President's findings. It discusses the Hague Convention,
- 2 the Geneva Conventions, Article I--I mean, Protocol I of the Geneva
- 3 Conventions, that the St. Petersburg Declaration Conventions. I
- 4 mean, he's discussing the law of war, and----
- 5 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: As he understood it to be as a law of war
- 6 scholar.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I'm not going to give the instruction
- 8 you are requesting.
- 9 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: And it's not because it's untimely.
- 11 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Because I always want to do the right thing
- 13 even if it's untimely. But I simply don't agree that Congress has
- 14 criminalized what you claim they are criminalizing. What they have
- 15 criminalized is a murder that violates the law of armed conflict.
- 16 And Professor Schmidt and Professor Dinstein have made it clear that
- 17 the law of armed conflict doesn't criminalize the killing of a
- 18 combatant if it's done even by an unlawful combatant. So maybe a
- 19 different judge will see this differently.
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: The fact that my instructions may serve as a
- 22 pattern for other cases to be tried doesn't mean that they won't be
- 23 corrected if they are incorrect or that they'll be seen differently

- 1 by another reader of the law. But it seems that murder in violation
- 2 of the law of war means a murder of someone in unauthorized fashion
- 3 using an unauthorized weapon, or those who have left the combat by
- 4 becoming wounded, disabled parachuting, or medical or religious
- 5 personnel.
- 6 Professor Schmidt, once again referring to the point you
- 7 are making here: "There is but one law of armed conflict consequence
- 8 of direct participation in hostilities. That is, they lose the
- 9 protection from attack they would otherwise enjoy pursuant to the law
- 10 of armed conflict. Thus, it is not a violation of the law of armed
- 11 conflict for combatants to use force against civilians"--that's not
- 12 the part I needed to--"absent this immunity that goes with being a
- 13 lawful combatant," I guess is he where he concludes, "the
- 14 unprivileged belligerent who kills a combatant"--that's what you are
- 15 charging here--"is subject to prosecution for murder pursuant to the
- 16 domestic law of states with subject matter jurisdiction over the
- 17 offense. There being no such crime under the law of armed conflict,
- 18 domestic law offers the sole basis for prosecution."
- 19 Okay. So that's now the Military Commissions Act.
- 20 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Which criminalizes murder in violation of the
- 22 law of war. I mean, it's not just a murder that's a violation, but
- 23 one that is violating the law of war.

- 1 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir. And I think the government's
- 2 position in that regard is, if an individual is not a member of a
- 3 state army, and if he's not wearing a rank that can be seen at--a
- 4 distinctive symbol that can be seen at a distance, and that he
- 5 doesn't comport with--or, if he does not comport with the laws of
- 6 war, then he is taken out of any belligerent privilege that he may
- 7 have held.
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Uh-huh.
- 9 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: And that any action that he takes as a
- 10 belligerent after that is all unlawful and would violate the law of
- 11 war.
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 13 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: It's without that belligerent privilege.
- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I'm sorry; I don't see it that way.
- 15 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: And I appreciate you bringing it back to my
- 17 attention, and I'm sorry you didn't get this on Saturday. We talked
- 18 about it, and the defense handed this to me.
- 19 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 20 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: And this was the point in the discussion at
- 21 which I said, Professor Schmidt was a colleague of mine at the
- 22 Marshall Center.
- 23 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I have great respect for his opinions. And
- 2 so you should have gotten a copy of this that day so this wouldn't
- 3 come up at the last minute.
- 4 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: But even if it were the last minute and I
- 6 thought you were right, I would make the members wait, I would craft
- 7 the correct instruction, and I would change the instruction I gave.
- 8 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Yes, sir.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: My sense is that Professor Schmidt is right,
- 10 and that murder in violation of the law of war is not the same as
- 11 killing any lawful combatant.
- 12 So I may be wrong on that. That's the chance I take
- 13 sitting up here and calling the shots, but for the next case around
- 14 maybe you all can ask Professor Schmidt to take another whack at this
- 15 in light of the Military Commissions Act and see if he says something
- 16 differently.
- 17 CTC [MR. TRIVETT]: Thank you, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you. Thank you for bringing this up.
- 19 Do you want to take a look at this? Maybe it's too late
- 20 now, but I would like to share it with you.
- 21 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: I apologize, your Honor. I thought that
- 22 the prosecution had a copy of that from way back when.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, I thought when we discussed it on
- 2 Saturday and you proposed the instruction that I ended up giving,
- 3 that the prosecution was involved in that discussion and kind of
- 4 concurred that that was a correct statement of the law. But perhaps
- 5 they didn't. Perhaps they didn't see what you were relying upon.
- 6 So I think for the present I will not give a different
- 7 instruction than what I have given. And I will call the members back
- 8 here to hear your closing argument.
- 9 Okay. Thank you very much for bringing that up and trying
- 10 to help me get it right. Okay. We'll ask the members to return.
- 11 BAILIFF: All rise [all persons did as directed and the members
- 12 entered the courtroom].
- 13 [The R.M.C. 803 session terminated and the military commission
- 14 commenced at 1413, 4 August 2008.]
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Please be seated [all persons did as
- 16 directed].
- 17 The members have returned to the courtroom. Thank you,
- 18 members.
- 19 Please continue with the defense's closing argument.
- 20 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Good afternoon, members. My name is Joe
- 21 McMillan, and I'm one of the counsel for the accused, Salim Hamdan.
- Your Honor, I would request that the documents that will be
- 23 placed on this ELMO be displayed to the members and to the gallery.

- 1 They are all the items in evidence, the instructions, or otherwise
- 2 outlines of remarks that have been made.
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very well.
- 4 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: The purpose of my remarks here in closing
- 5 are to address the second charge with which Mr. Hamdan is charged,
- 6 the material support for terrorism charge. There will be inevitably
- 7 a certain amount of overlap between my remarks and those of
- 8 Lieutenant Commander Mizer who addressed the conspiracy charge, but I
- 9 will do my best to keep those at a minimum and not waste your time.
- 10 I did want begin however, by making sure that the members understood
- 11 the structure of the material support charges, because they are
- 12 fairly confusing as they are set out on the charge sheet.
- 13 There are eight separate Specifications under the material
- 14 support charge, and they come in four pairs, four pairs. Each type
- 15 of conduct has sort of two prongs. It's on the one hand being
- 16 asserted as an act to support terrorism, and then on the other hand
- 17 being alleged that it was an act supporting a terrorist organization.
- 18 So you have four types of conduct, and they are outlined here on this
- 19 outline which I have prepared. There are four groups.
- The first group, Specifications 1 and 2, goes together and
- 21 alleges that Mr. Hamdan supported terrorism by providing, himself, by
- 22 providing personnel, himself, on the one hand, in Specification 1, in
- 23 preparation for or carrying out an act of terrorism; and then, in

- 1 Specification 2, provided personnel, himself, to an international
- 2 terrorist organization engaged in hostilities against United States.
- 3 So that's the first type of conduct, providing personnel on the one
- 4 hand for an act of terrorism, on the other for a terrorist
- 5 organization.
- The second group is providing SA-7 missiles. And, again,
- 7 the judge has instructed that here the Specification has been changed
- 8 by a ruling from the military judge due to a failure of proof in the
- 9 trial that has just ended. As originally asserted, this charge was
- 10 providing SA-7 missiles on the one hand in Specification 3 for an act
- of terrorism, that Mr. Hamdan is alleged to have known it was going
- 12 to be used for an act of terrorism. In Specification 4, it is
- 13 providing the SA-7 missiles to an international terrorist
- 14 organization. So, again, we see this, a single type of conduct, two
- 15 types of charges or two specifications: Act of terrorism, and then
- 16 to a terrorist organization.
- 17 The same structure applies to the third and the fourth
- 18 group. The conduct that is alleged to have been the material support
- 19 in Specifications 5 and 6 is providing transportation services to
- 20 Usama bin Laden. In Specification 5, it is for the purpose of an act
- 21 of terrorism. In Specification 6, it's to intentionally support an
- 22 international terrorist organization engaged in hostilities against
- 23 the United States.

- 1 The fourth and final pair relates to the allegation that
- 2 Mr. Hamdan provided bodyquard services to Usama bin Laden.
- 3 Specification 7 says those services were to facilitate an act of
- 4 terrorism; Specification 8 says they were providing material support
- 5 for a terrorist organization. So I just wanted to make sure that you
- 6 understood the sort of logic or structure of those charges and then
- 7 go on to address them.
- 8 I will probably address them the way trial counsel, Mr.
- 9 Murphy, addressed them, where the odd numbered charges, 1, 3, 5, 7,
- 10 relate to services or personnel to support terrorism, and then
- 11 address the even numbered charges, or Specifications 2, 4, 6, 8,
- 12 which are directed towards services designed or alleged to support a
- 13 terrorist organization.
- 14 So let me begin by addressing Specifications 1, 3, 5, 7,
- 15 which are conduct alleged to support an act of terrorism.
- 16 The first point to make here is that there has been a
- 17 complete failure of proof on the part of the government with respect
- 18 to the three elements that must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 19 And I wanted to show you the instruction that Judge Allred has read
- 20 to you already and that will go back to your deliberation room with
- 21 you. These instructions are sort of the playbook that you'll need to
- 22 follow very closely.

- 1 This is the instruction for material support for terrorism.
- 2 You'll see this language in each of the Specifications for 1, 3, 5,
- 3 7, and there are three elements that the conduct constituted support
- 4 to be used for carrying out an act of terrorism. The second element
- 5 is an intent element; that Mr. Hamdan knew or intended the material
- 6 support would be used for carrying out an act of terrorism; and the
- 7 third element is an element that requires the conduct to have
- 8 occurred in the context of an armed conflict. This is a law of war
- 9 military commission, and it is a fundamental element of every one of
- 10 these charges that the offense occur during time of war or time of
- 11 armed conflict, which is synonymous.
- 12 The evidence that has been presented to you by the
- 13 government in this case fails on each point.
- 14 First, with respect to element number one involving
- 15 terrorism, there has been no evidence that Mr. Hamdan's conduct was
- 16 intended to kill or wound protected persons, or to coerce or
- 17 intimidate governments or civilian populations. Why is that
- 18 relevant? Because the instructions on the law that Judge Allred read
- 19 to you identified how this terrorism element is to be considered.
- With respect to Specifications 1, 3, 5, and 7 of Charge II,
- 21 that's the material support charge, terrorism is defined as the
- 22 intentional killing or the intentional infliction of great bodily
- 23 harm on one or more protected persons. Protected persons.

- 1 Now, protected persons are also defined in these
- 2 instructions. And this is again classic textbook law of war
- 3 doctrine. Protected persons are civilians not taking an active part
- 4 in hostilities; military personnel placed outside of combat, hors de
- 5 combat, outside of combat by virtue of sickness or wounds or capture;
- 6 or, military medical personnel, military religious personnel.
- 7 Violence directed at those categories of persons violates the law of
- 8 war. However--and this is the key part of the defense of Mr. Hamdan
- 9 in this case--violence directed against combatants who are fit and
- 10 able and on the battlefield and engaged in combat, violence directed
- 11 at combatants is not a violation of the law of war.
- Now, how do you know that? Well, you know that because it
- 13 is in the instructions as well. There is an instruction defining a
- 14 military objective, what are legitimate targets in times of war under
- 15 the law of war. Military objectives include combatants as well those
- 16 objects which, by their nature, location, purpose, or use contribute
- 17 to the opposing force's war-fighting or war-sustaining capability.
- 18 The point here is that a major component of the
- 19 government's case is that the use of missiles or missile components
- 20 to be directed at U.S. airmen or personnel would be murder in
- 21 violation of the law of war. These instructions, which are a
- 22 statement of law that you must apply, say otherwise.

- Now, there has been no evidence whatsoever that Mr. Hamdan,
- 2 in any of the acts alleged, either planned or executed any terrorist
- 3 acts. What evidence has been presented? Well, the government
- 4 brought down a string of agents, each of whom was asked the question:
- 5 Is there any evidence that you have that Mr. Hamdan was involved in
- 6 the planning, implementation, or the execution of a terrorist act?
- 7 The answer universally was "no."
- 8 Strangely, that comports exactly with the evidence that the
- 9 defense presented to you from some of the people present at this
- 10 facility, who are admittedly members of the conspiracy charged
- 11 against Mr. Hamdan. The defense witnesses--they were not called live
- 12 --Khalid Sheik Mohammed and Walid bin Attash. They were not called
- 13 live; however, written answers were presented to you on Friday
- 14 morning. And I know the members carefully attended and read through
- 15 those answers, and, with advance apologies, I would like to spend a
- 16 moment or two going through some of the high points of those answers.
- 17 These are not classified. These were obtained through running the
- 18 questions first and then these answers second through a security
- 19 officer who cleared these and unclassified these.
- Now, I would first like to show you the answers from Khalid
- 21 Sheik Mohammed, the architect of the 9/11 attack. He was asked:
- Are you familiar with Mr. Hamdan's activities and assigned
- 23 responsibilities in his association with Usama bin Laden?

- 1 Answer: He was a driver and an auto mechanic.
- 2 Question: Did Salim Hamdan ever have any role in planning
- 3 or carrying out any activities that you either directed or were
- 4 involved in?
- 5 Answer: He did not play any role. He was not a soldier;
- 6 he was a driver. He was not fit to plan or execute, but he is fit to
- 7 change trucks' tires, change oil filters, wash and clean cars, fasten
- 8 cargo, pick up trucks. He could tighten bolts. He could select the
- 9 best car maintenance shops.
- 10 Question: Did he have any role in the planning of attacks
- 11 outside Afghanistan, attacks such as the East African embassy
- 12 bombings, the attack on the USS COLE, or September 11?
- 13 Answer: He was not at all a military man.
- 14 If you believe that Mr. Hamdan had some role in such
- 15 planning, please explain everything you know about it.
- 16 He did not play any role.
- 17 Question: What about the execution of attacks outside
- 18 Afghanistan, including those which have been highlighted by the
- 19 prosecution here, the East African bombing, the COLE, September 11?
- 20 Answer from Khalid Sheik Mohammed: He did not have any
- 21 involvement.

- 1 Question: Did Mr. bin Laden have people working for him on
- 2 agricultural or other projects that did not involve military
- 3 activities or attacks in other countries?
- 4 Yes and so many.
- Was Mr. Hamdan a bodyguard? Was he assigned as a bodyguard
- 6 for Usama bin Laden?
- 7 Answer: He was a driver, carrying guards and Sheik Usama
- 8 bin Laden. He was not a bodyguard.
- 9 As Lieutenant Commander Mizer already explained, Khalid
- 10 Sheik Mohammed identified the sort of ideological commitments of Mr.
- 11 Hamdan.
- 12 To your knowledge--was the question--was Salim Hamdan
- 13 involved in any conspiracy with intent to plan or conduct the
- 14 terrorist attacks?
- 15 Answer: He was not aiming for such things, whether short
- 16 term or long term. He was looking for Usama bin Laden's money. He
- 17 was not with the ideology of Usama bin Laden and people like him. He
- 18 was only searching for pleasure and money in this life.
- 19 Question: Did he provide material aid and support for
- 20 planning or executing terrorist attacks?
- No--this is a repeat question--said KSM.
- 22 And, finally, in a summation, Khalid Sheik Mohammed offered
- 23 this comment in response to no specific question. He said: Hamdan

- 1 was not a member of al Qaeda. Instead, he was an employee who
- 2 received a salary from Usama bin Laden's personal budget, not from
- 3 the al Qaeda budget, because UBL rejects to pay to whoever serves him
- 4 personally from al Qaeda's budget. Also, and from the beginning, he
- 5 was not among those who endorsed Usama bin Laden. Though, he goes on
- 6 to say, not everyone supports bin Laden means support a military
- 7 action. So many people supported Usama bin Laden worked in civilian
- 8 sectors, such as agricultural projects, and have nothing to do with
- 9 military activities whatsoever.
- 10 Now, okay, that's Khalid Sheik Mohammed. Well, why should
- 11 he be believed? Interestingly enough, answers entirely consistent
- 12 with KSM's answers were obtained from another high-value detainee
- 13 accused of being involved in the conspiracy that Mr. Hamdan is
- 14 alleged to have been involved in, answers from Walid bin Attash about
- 15 whom you heard a great deal of information. There was no opportunity
- 16 for these detainees, both present here, to consult. There was no
- 17 opportunity for counsel for Mr. Hamdan to meet with these individuals
- 18 prior to receiving these answers. There was no opportunity for them
- 19 to coordinate or divine where we were going with the questions that
- 20 were relevant to Mr. Hamdan's case.
- 21 Let me show you the answers from Walid bin Attash. Again,
- 22 I know you have looked at these carefully, but they are, we would

- 1 submit, among the most significant pieces of evidence that will go
- 2 back into the deliberation room with you.
- 3 Bin Attash was asked to describe what he knew about
- 4 Hamdan's activities and responsibilities associated with bin Laden.
- 5 Answer: His activities were distinctly clear, as he was
- 6 seen driving the cars, going and coming, every day. His
- 7 responsibilities were those related to driving, such as mechanical
- 8 and maintenance and repairs.
- 9 Question: Did Mr. Hamdan have any role in planning attacks
- 10 outside of Afghanistan, including East Africa, USS COLE, and
- 11 September 11?
- 12 Answer: Salim Hamdan was not involved in the planning of
- 13 such attacks against the United States.
- How do you know?
- Well, I am personally accused--he said--of being involved
- 16 in these attacks. I was close to Sheik Usama bin Laden. I am
- 17 certain that Salim Hamdan is not involved in any planning.
- 18 Question: If you believe that he had some role, please
- 19 state everything you know.
- 20 Answer: He did not play any role.
- 21 Question: Implementation or execution of attacks.
- 22 Same answer: He was not involved in the implementation of
- any attack.

- 1 Repeated again: What about bodyguards? Was Mr. Hamdan a
- 2 bodyguard for Usama bin Laden?
- 3 Answer: No, he was not like that.
- 4 Question: Do you know if Salim Hamdan was ever asked to
- 5 play that role on one or two occasions for a particular day or a
- 6 particular event?
- 7 Answer: Yes. Such occasions were during certain days or
- 8 holidays, sometimes even of members not with al Qaeda connections,
- 9 like Salim Hamdan.
- 10 The government has made a great deal of the CNN video
- 11 dating from May of 1998, indicating that this is proof beyond a
- 12 reasonable doubt that Mr. Hamdan is an armed bodyquard for Usama bin
- 13 Laden. But the testimony of the government's own witness, John
- 14 Miller, was during his interview of al Qaeda, of bin Laden, at an al
- 15 Qaeda camp someplace in Afghanistan, there was a carefully
- 16 choreographed presentation, there was a show put on for the
- 17 journalists.
- 18 What does Mr. bin Attash have to say? Yes, sometimes there
- 19 could be on certain holidays or certain occasions, events of that
- 20 sort.
- Interestingly, in the closing remarks the prosecution has
- 22 now backed off of the claim that the Al-Fitr video, which dates from
- 23 January of 2000, depicts Mr. Hamdan in a bodyguard role. That's the

- 1 video, you'll recall, where he is walking through the scene dressed
- 2 in white. And while he does have a radio and a weapon, that doesn't
- 3 provide evidence that he is necessarily serving as a bodyguard.
- 4 Question: Based on your knowledge and experience, did al
- 5 Qaeda have any sort of hierarchy or structure?
- Answer, from Mr. bin Attash: There was lists that included
- 7 names that were in al Qaeda organization or they were working with
- 8 them, even names of workers and activities that are not military,
- 9 such as agriculture project and the like of that. Also, there were
- 10 lists of names that received salaries monthly from Sheik Usama
- 11 regardless if they were members of al Qaeda or not. Perhaps the name
- 12 of Salim Hamdan can be among those names, because he was included
- 13 with the drivers that received monthly salaries.
- 14 The message here from bin Attash, consistent with the
- 15 message from KSM, is that Mr. Hamdan is, as Lieutenant Commander
- 16 Mizer explained, a salaried employee. He is not ideologically
- 17 committed to a project of terrorism or jihad; he is working for
- 18 wages. His boss is Usama bin Laden. The case that the prosecution
- 19 has put before you is based entirely on proximity, proximity to the
- 20 person of bin Laden. But proximity is neither conspiracy nor is it
- 21 material support for terrorism.
- 22 Again, why should these individuals be believed? Well,
- 23 there's a consistency in their answers in a situation where they were

- 1 given separately and spontaneously, without prompting, coaching, or
- 2 opportunities to divine the direction that the defense was going.
- 3 There's a ring of truth about those. It's for you to decide whether
- 4 they ring true or not.
- Now, but as I mentioned before, those answers are perfectly
- 6 consistent with the answers of federal agents who were paraded up
- 7 here in front of you indicating no evidence whatsoever that Mr.
- 8 Hamdan had a role in planning or executing terrorist attacks. Was
- 9 there any documentary evidence of Mr. Hamdan's role in planning or
- 10 executing terrorist attacks? None. None at all.
- 11 The prosecution's theory on these Specifications, 1, 3, 5,
- 12 7, of support for terrorism is an infrastructure theory, that Mr.
- 13 Hamdan was part of the infrastructure supporting terrorist attacks.
- 14 Well, there are numerous flaws with this infrastructure theory. The
- 15 first is that it offends the principle of personal responsibility and
- 16 attempts to impose guilt by association. The prosecution's theory is
- 17 that anyone who supports the infrastructure of al Qaeda is criminally
- 18 supporting terrorism. Hamdan's part of that infrastructure as the
- 19 driver, he is criminally liable. Under that theory, every cook,
- 20 every teacher, every farmer, every goat herder, the butcher, the
- 21 baker, the candlestick maker, essentially, everyone associated with
- 22 bin Laden and providing him any service whatsoever is criminally
- 23 liable for material support for terrorism.

- 1 This is the definition of guilt by association that we
- 2 reject as part of our legal tradition. It's a theory that violates a
- 3 fundamental principle of criminal law, which is that you can only be
- 4 held to answer for your own conduct, not for the conduct of your
- 5 father, not for the conduct of your brother, not for the conduct of
- 6 your fellow countryman, not for the conduct of your boss.
- 7 The general is a war criminal and, therefore, the driver is
- 8 also? No. No, it didn't work that way in World War II; Hitler's
- 9 driver was never charged with a war crime; and it does not work that
- 10 way today. This is a law of war court, and the prosecution's
- 11 expansive all-encompassing infrastructure theory would make those who
- 12 are familiar with the law of war, people--this condition is heard
- 13 from, for example, Professor Corn, this infrastructure theory would
- 14 make such experts, genuine experts on the law of war, cringe. Why?
- 15 Because the same specious reasoning, the same unbounded expansion of
- 16 what should be deemed a legitimate target has been used in the past
- 17 to justify attacks on civilians in time of war, civilians regarded as
- 18 part of an infrastructure supporting a wartime economy.
- 19 Indeed, terrorists try to justify their cowardly attacks on
- 20 civilians on similar grounds, arguing that civilians should be held
- 21 accountable for the conduct of their governments, governments that
- 22 terrorists may regard as their enemies. They hold civilians
- 23 responsible as part of the infrastructure of a society that they

- 1 believe oppresses them. But that's criminal conduct. That's
- 2 criminal conduct. And that hollow justification ironically bears an
- 3 uncomfortable resemblance to the prosecution's infrastructure theory
- 4 in this case; that any cog in the wheel, regardless of how minor or
- 5 how indirect a role he or she plays, is criminally liable for the
- 6 actions of others. It's a prescription in fact for holding family
- 7 members liable for the crimes of the members of their family,
- 8 parents, spouses, siblings, who naturally provide a certain amount of
- 9 care and support for members of the family. It effectively
- 10 eliminates that principle of personal responsibility. It's alien to
- 11 our traditions, and it should be rejected.
- Now, a second fatal flaw in the prosecution's
- 13 infrastructure theory is that it violates the specificity requirement
- 14 that is included in the instructions that Judge Allred gave to you
- 15 this morning.
- 16 Let me again direct your attention to the instructions on
- 17 the law, and this is an instruction that comes in with respect to the
- 18 material support charge after Specifications 1, 3, 5, and 7, this
- 19 highlighted section: To convict an accused of providing material
- 20 support for an act of terrorism, the government must prove beyond a
- 21 reasonable doubt that the accused knew or intended to provide support
- 22 for a specific act of terrorism--a specific act of terrorism.

- 1 "This offense is inherently forward-looking. An accused
- 2 cannot be convicted for providing material support for past acts of
- 3 terrorism."
- 4 Accordingly, all the discussion that you have heard from
- 5 the prosecution about Mr. bin Laden knowing, he learned, he was able
- 6 to piece together information, overheard conversations about bombings
- 7 in East Africa or the USS COLE, things that he originally thought,
- 8 for example, the COLE, were attributed to Mossad. These things that
- 9 he pieces together about past acts, that's not sufficient. That's
- 10 not sufficient. Material support for terrorism means conduct that is
- 11 designed to effect a specific terrorist event in the future, and the
- 12 evidence that has been put in front of you by the government in this
- 13 case is not of that sort at all.
- In addition, the government's infrastructure theory
- 15 completely eliminates the intent instruction. The intent instruction
- 16 is a key part of material support. There needs to be a specific
- 17 intent that the accused knew or intended that the material support
- 18 would be used for carrying out an act of terrorism. Accept an
- 19 infrastructure theory that he's the guy that drove around the guy
- 20 that did the planning, and you effectively write that second element
- 21 of intent out of the material support statute. It's your duty, of
- 22 course, to apply this law, and this law means that every element
- 23 needs to be proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

- 1 Finally, look at the third element of providing material
- 2 support. This is an element that is present for every offense in
- 3 front of this Commission, conspiracy and material support alike, that
- 4 the conduct took place in the context of and was associated with an
- 5 armed conflict. The prosecution must prove that, as every other
- 6 element, beyond a reasonable doubt. They have the burden of proving
- 7 that an armed conflict existed at the time of each act that they rely
- 8 on to try to prove material support. They have not and they cannot
- 9 carry that burden.
- 10 Now, it's a burden they could have avoided. They could
- 11 have proceeded against Mr. Hamdan in a federal district court where
- 12 charges like conspiracy----
- 13 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: Objection, your Honor. That's beyond
- 14 evidence in this case. Other courts have no bearing on this
- 15 proceeding.
- 16 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: I'll move on.
- 17 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you.
- 18 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: This is a law of war court, and,
- 19 accordingly, the law of war must be applied. And the law of war
- 20 requires that the offenses alleged occur in the context of and during
- 21 an armed conflict.
- Now, we requested that the prosecution produce rules of
- 23 engagement that would assist in illustrating when the armed forces of

- 1 the United States were actually engaged in conflict. The prosecution
- 2 brushed that off. Their response effectively was, "Google it. Find
- 3 it yourself from open sources." They put nothing into the record.
- 4 They put no evidence in front of you on this vital element of their
- 5 case, an absolutely indispensable element that had to be proved. All
- 6 that this Commission heard were a few conclusory remarks from their
- 7 expert, Evan Kohlmann, stating in his opinion that the attacks on the
- 8 embassies in East Africa and the USS COLE were acts of war.
- 9 On cross, Mr. Kohlmann readily admitted that he is not a
- 10 law of war expert. In fact, Mr. Kohlmann's expertise apparently
- 11 involved downloading files from the Internet and putting them
- 12 together in a manner that had questionable relevance to this
- 13 defendant. This defendant did not appear anywhere in that rather
- 14 inflammatory series of videotapes that were shown by the prosecution
- 15 expert, Mr. Kohlmann.
- 16 But to return to the date on which the armed conflict
- 17 began, we did take a look at that question, and the defense did
- 18 submit evidence that goes to that issue. Let me show you in a
- 19 summary form what that evidence is.
- 20 First, we have the bombings of the U.S. embassies in East
- 21 Africa in August of 1998. The response from the U.S. government was
- 22 it did involve a use of military force. It involved not an
- 23 airstrike, as the trial counsel suggested during closing, but a

- 1 single launch of a set of cruise missiles followed by nothing beyond
- 2 law enforcement efforts.
- 3 A second event on which the prosecution relies to establish
- 4 an armed conflict is the attack on the USS COLE in October of 2000.
- 5 Again, no military response at all this time, but law enforcement
- 6 efforts.
- 7 The defense submitted Exhibit BB, consisting of the CENTCOM
- 8 Standing Rules of Engagement. The question put to the witness Ms.
- 9 Gaskins was: Anywhere in that document--which is in evidence and
- 10 will be back in your deliberation with you. Anywhere in that
- 11 document, is there any mention of al Qaeda? Any mention of
- 12 terrorists? Any authority for U.S. armed forces to initiate status-
- 13 based strikes, strikes based on an identification of who they are?
- 14 Not conduct-based strikes.
- Recall Professor Corn's testimony: Standing rules will
- 16 authorize conduct-based violence against an adversary, based, that
- 17 is, on threatening conduct. If that adversary threatens the force or
- 18 interferes with its mission, the use of force in return is
- 19 authorized. But status-based strikes, which are indicative of the
- 20 existence of war or armed conflict, are where a mere identification
- 21 of that individual as al Qaeda or a terrorist or the member of some
- 22 enemy group allows armed forces to initiate that violence. That's
- 23 indicative of armed conflict. That's indicative of whether or not

- 1 the individuals on the ground in the location have authority to bring
- 2 force to bear at their own initiative. Any such authority given in
- 3 the CENTCOM Standing Rules of Engagement up until 9/11? No. No.
- 4 Then, of course, we have the September 11 attacks in New
- 5 York, in Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania. One week later, Congress
- 6 passes the authorization for the use of military force. This is
- 7 Defense Exhibit Zeta--or, Zulu. I'm sorry. This authorization for
- 8 the use of force is passed as a joint resolution by the branch of the
- 9 United States government, Congress that is constitutionally entrusted
- 10 with declaring war, with committing the armed forces of this country
- 11 into war. And what's the purpose of the authorization for the use of
- 12 force? It's to authorize the use of the armed forces against those
- 13 responsible for the recent attacks.
- 14 What happens in the weeks following the AUMF, the
- 15 Authorization for the Use of Military Force? Well, the identity of
- 16 the perpetrators is established. A demand is sent to the Taliban
- 17 government, a de facto government in Afghanistan, a demand that the
- 18 leaders of al Qaeda responsible for this horrific attack be handed
- 19 over for criminal prosecution.
- The demand is unmet. It is ignored. Accordingly, the
- 21 United States government puts into process, puts into play a series
- 22 of steps that move us into a state of armed conflict. Ms. Gaskins

- 1 described the exhibits; most of this is set out in the message
- 2 traffic through Exhibit CC that is in evidence.
- 3 On October 2, there's an order for the evacuation of
- 4 civilian personnel from Afghanistan. On October 5, there's a strike
- 5 execute order instructing commanders to put forces at the ready. On
- 6 October 6, rules of engagement for Operation Enduring Freedom are
- 7 issued. And then the next day, on October 7, 2001, the President
- 8 announces the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom.
- 9 In a speech from the White House dated October 7, 2001, the
- 10 President says to the nation, "Good afternoon. On my orders, the
- 11 United States military has begun strikes against al Qaeda terrorist
- 12 training camps and military installations of the Taliban regime in
- 13 Afghanistan."
- 14 He goes on to explain that, "More than two weeks ago, I
- 15 gave Taliban leaders a series of clear and specific demands. There
- 16 was an ultimatum issued. That ultimatum was spurned. The results
- 17 were warfare."
- 18 This is when the armed conflict began, members. This is
- 19 the moment when the United States armed forces went into action.
- 20 While there may have been preparatory steps taken, there was still an
- 21 effort, a last-ditch effort to secure by peaceful means, to allow for
- 22 a criminal prosecution, extradition and criminal prosecution of the
- 23 al Qaeda leadership. That was rejected. And, by rejecting it, the

- 1 Taliban brought on war. The date of the beginning of the armed
- 2 conflict then is October 7, 2001.
- Now, if you consider that date, October 7 of 2001, and then
- 4 refocus for a moment on one of the prosecution exhibits, Prosecution
- 5 Exhibit 121, which was the map prepared by Special Agent or
- 6 prepared as a result of his interrogation of Mr. Hamdan, an
- 7 interesting fact emerges. Here, we have what is alleged to be a
- 8 driving circuit in the days immediately before and the days after
- 9 9/11. It stands as one of the most important pieces of factual
- 10 evidence that the prosecution has submitted that Mr. Hamdan was
- 11 materially supporting terrorism or terrorist organizations. And we
- 12 have, based on Special Agent 's interrogation, we have a
- 13 serious of blue boxes, which he acknowledged were rough--they were
- 14 rough. There's not a precisioning with respect to these dates, but
- 15 there's about two or three dates here, there's about a week there,
- 16 and so forth and so on.
- Well, what do you see? What you see is that the last item,
- 18 the last time that Mr. Hamdan is identified as being present with bin
- 19 Laden is in Kabul, that's item number 10, Kabul, 10/7-10/8. Okay?
- The driving of this, this so-called escape plan, that
- 21 driving was largely complete. It was done. What we have is Mr.
- 22 Hamdan in bin Laden's presence. He's in bin Laden's presence, just
- 23 like he's in the possession of a missile. But being present with Mr.

- 1 Hamdan during a period of armed conflict does not satisfy the third
- 2 element, the element of every one of these charges that the offense
- 3 alleged must occur during armed conflict. This driving tour falls
- 4 outside the boundaries of the commencement of the war. The
- 5 commencement of the war is October 7. By October 7, according to
- 6 Special Agent , Hamdan is simply present with bin Laden in
- 7 Kabul.
- 8 Moreover, even if you reject that, even if you dismiss
- 9 that, there is no proof that Mr. Hamdan intended his driving services
- 10 to support terrorism or intended his driving services to support a
- 11 terrorist organization. He was a driver for bin Laden. He had a
- 12 boss; he was an employee; he was paid a monthly salary. There has
- 13 been nothing but a request that you draw a huge inference that there
- 14 was an intent to further terrorism or terrorist organizations, and
- 15 that has simply not been proved beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 16 Now, we have talked a little bit already about the
- 17 bodyguard Specification, or the bodyguard evidence. There is really
- 18 no proof beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Hamdan served as a
- 19 bodyguard, certainly not in the period after the beginning of the
- 20 armed conflict, after October 7, 2001. Recall that the CNN video,
- 21 which is the primary piece of evidence of bodyguard services, dates
- 22 from May of 1998. Now, that's before John Miller even arrived to
- 23 interview Mr. bin Laden. That's at a time when a hundred out of a

- 1 hundred Americans, according to Mr. Miller, would not even recognize
- 2 the name bin Laden. The government's contention in front of this
- 3 Commission is that we were at war with al Qaeda and bin Laden at that
- 4 point.
- 5 Professor Corn very clearly explained that propaganda
- 6 statements or self-aggrandizing publicity from political leaders
- 7 about being at war with the United States are meaningless under the
- 8 law of war. If we were at war with every crank or crackpot or
- 9 dissident or self-styled, you know, army that declared war with the
- 10 United States, there would be a state of constant war. It's not the
- 11 law of war. The law of war does not invest those sorts of propaganda
- 12 statements with legal significance.
- Now, the prosecution also, as I mentioned, bases about half
- 14 of this case on transporting weapons, transporting weapons including
- 15 missile components to Kandahar, as something alleged to be in support
- 16 of terrorism. But as we established at the beginning of my remarks,
- 17 using weapons in warfare against combatants who are armed, equipped,
- 18 and fit for battle is not a war crime. It may be a crime under
- 19 domestic law, but it's not a violation of the law of war. As
- 20 Lieutenant Commander Mizer indicated, the use of these weapons would
- 21 violate the law of war--and this is the instruction on murder in
- 22 violation of the law of war--the use of these weapons would violate
- 23 the law of war if a combatant, whether lawful or unlawful, were to

- 1 direct his fire or kill civilians not takings part in hostilities,
- 2 military personnel outside of combatant by virtue of being captured
- 3 or wounded or sick, or directed against military medical or military
- 4 religious personnel.
- 5 The government's theory of this case, however, is that
- 6 transporting weapons, whether it's to the Ansars, who are the Arab-
- 7 dominated fighting force that Professor Williams talks about, or
- 8 whether it's to the defense of Kandahar, is itself evidence of a war
- 9 crime. In other words the prosecution's contention is that, under
- 10 the law of war, in Afghanistan, U.S. and coalition forces were
- 11 authorized to direct their fire at Taliban and other units integrated
- 12 with the Taliban; but, if they fired back, they were war criminals.
- Well, we certainly don't want them firing back. But, under
- 14 the law of war, that is not a correct statement of the situation.
- 15 Directing fire at combatants in combat, unless they have been placed
- 16 outside of combat by those things we mentioned, is not a war crime.
- 17 In fact, the prosecution has presented almost no evidence about
- 18 either where the missile components came from or where they were
- 19 going. Indeed, the Specifications of the charge sheet as initially
- 20 provided to you demonstrate that they had no idea--they still have no
- 21 idea--where those missiles were going. And if we look at the charge
- 22 sheet that was originally provided to you, for charges III and IV--
- 23 these are the offenses relating to the missiles and the material

- 1 support charge. The allegation is that Mr. Hamdan was providing one
- 2 or more SA-7 surface-to-air missiles to members of al Qaeda, Taliban,
- 3 or others directly associated with said organizations. The same
- 4 language appears in Specification 3, Specification 3 relating to the
- 5 missiles, the allegation that Mr. Hamdan was providing one or more
- 6 SA-7 surface-to-air missiles to members of al Qaeda, Taliban, or
- 7 others directly associated with said organizations.
- 8 Well, there's three possibilities offered by the
- 9 prosecution there. At least two of those three possibilities would
- 10 not constitute a crime, would not be providing missile components to
- 11 terrorists. The Taliban, as the Judge has provided under judicial
- 12 notice, were the de facto government of Afghanistan, and the Taliban
- 13 armed forces were the regular armed forces of the state.
- 14 Professor Brian Williams presented testimony which was the
- 15 result of his study of Central Asian Jihadist movements. What did he
- 16 have to say about the Taliban? Well, they are a perfectly legitimate
- 17 conventional force. It's not a force that shares our ideology or our
- 18 values, but nevertheless, they had an order of battle, including
- 19 infantry artillery armor, they had a command structure. They
- 20 reported directly to a political leadership of the Islamic Emirate of
- 21 Afghanistan. They fought under a standard, a battle flag. They were
- 22 identifiable in battle. These are the criteria for a lawful fighting
- 23 force, and that's how they fought through the late '90s up until

- 1 Operation Enduring Freedom. And they continued to fight that way as
- 2 a conventional fighting force, and that's why they were destroyed;
- 3 because going against the firepower of the United States in
- 4 conventional warfare results in the destruction of the enemy.
- 5 The same occurred with the Ansars. The Ansars, Professor
- 6 Williams indicated, were primarily an Arab-dominated fighting force.
- 7 These are some of the slides that Professor Williams prepared and
- 8 showed. They were integrated into the Taliban force. They were
- 9 organized into actually a preexisting Afghan unit and given the
- 10 numeric designation of a former Afghan brigade, the 055 Brigade.
- 11 They were regimented and had a command structure under responsible
- 12 command. They were recognized in Jane's World Armies as a formal
- 13 military force. And they fought as part, in fact, as an elite part,
- 14 of the Taliban armed forces. Like the Taliban, they were destroyed
- 15 in Operation Enduring Freedom. Why? Because at that time they were
- 16 fighting a conventional war. I'm not talking about today. I'm not
- 17 talking about the Taliban or other groups in Afghanistan today. We
- 18 are talking about in the fall of 2001.
- 19 So the prosecution has offered several different
- 20 possibilities for where those missiles or weapons were going, but at
- 21 least two of them were not terrorist groups. They were going to the
- 22 Taliban or to others directly associated with said organizations.
- 23 Meaning, who? Well, presumably the Ansars.

- 1 The Ansar units had fallen back in the defense of Kandahar.
- 2 They were assisting the Taliban in the defense of that city. The
- 3 whole theory of the prosecution's case is that those missiles are
- 4 moving to that city for its defense. In fact, Major Hank sat
- 5 here and said that he was convinced to a military certainty that
- 6 those missiles were going to be used in the defense of Kandahar.
- What the defense submits to you, members, is that using
- 8 such missiles against combatants in the defense of Kandahar, as
- 9 regrettable as it would be if that fire were directed against the
- 10 members of our armed services, it would not be a war crime.
- In this context, I think it's interesting to recall the
- 12 prosecution expert Evan Kohlmann, when he showed video clips of
- 13 surface-to-air missiles, probably Stinger missiles, provided to
- 14 mujahideen forces in Afghanistan in the 1980s. And there was one
- 15 clip of a missile, shoulder-launched missile destroying a Russian
- 16 helicopter. And the question put to Mr. Kohlmann was: Mr. Kohlmann,
- 17 is that an act of terrorism? And what was the response? I wrote it
- 18 down because I thought it a quite incisive question. What was his
- 19 response? "No, that's not an act of terrorism." He said, "That's
- 20 paramilitary conflict." I'm not sure what paramilitary conflict is,
- 21 actually. I'm not sure there's a category under the law of war for
- 22 paramilitary conflict. But the key point is, it's not an act of
- 23 terrorism because it's fire directed against a combatant. And it

- 1 does not matter what the status of the shooter is. If that person is
- 2 not a combatant, they may be subject to domestic prosecution, but not
- 3 prosecution under the law of war as a war criminal.
- 4 The other thing that needs to be borne in mind is that it's
- 5 not the defense's burden to prove where the missiles were going; it's
- 6 the prosecution's burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that they
- 7 were going for terrorist purposes. And they haven't even shown that
- 8 by a preponderance of the evidence much less beyond a reasonable
- 9 doubt. Indeed, they haven't even ruled out the explanation that Mr.
- 10 Hamdan provided at that first interrogation, which is that they
- 11 weren't going anywhere; they just happened to be in the car. He was
- 12 taking women and children to the border. He was taking his wife and
- 13 his daughter to the border, and he was stopped on the way back by the
- 14 forces associated with Major at Takteh-Pol.
- 15 Whose car was he in? He was in the car of a well-known al
- 16 Qaeda leader. We heard that from Agent , Abu Yasser. Who is
- 17 Abu Yasser? As Lieutenant Commander Mizer explained, Abu Yasser was
- 18 known to be a facilitator. He had -- he was known to forge documents,
- 19 forge passports to facilitate the movement of personnel in and out of
- 20 the country. Is there corroborating evidence of that? Yes. The
- 21 pocket litter gathered with Mr. Hamdan was filled with small
- 22 passport-sized photographs. Abu Yasser's car, missile components in
- 23 the car. Are they going anywhere at all? Not necessarily.

- In sum, there has simply been no proof, no proof beyond a
- 2 reasonable doubt on this element.
- 3 Okay. A few remarks about the support alleged for a
- 4 terrorist organization. These are the Specifications 2, 4, 6, 8; the
- 5 support for a terrorist organization. Well, I have two main points
- 6 that need to be made. One, is that the armed conflict between the
- 7 United States and al Qaeda began on 7 October 2001. There is not a
- 8 shred of evidence in front of this Commission about support for al
- 9 Qaeda as a terrorist organization by this defendant, Mr. Hamdan, that
- 10 postdates October 7, 2001. Special Agent 's testimony? He
- 11 left bin Laden probably around mid-October, left bin Laden, getting
- 12 back to his wife and daughter in Kandahar, attempting to get them out
- 13 of the country.
- 14 What was the testimony of the federal agents? Repeatedly,
- 15 the testimony was, and indeed the charges are, that Mr. Hamdan
- 16 provided services to bin Laden. Agent testified that he was
- 17 paid directly by bin Laden, strangely corroborative of Khalid Sheik
- 18 Mohammed's testimony in that regard.
- Now, why is this focus on bin Laden? Why is this focus on
- 20 bin Laden of interest? Well, because there is an instruction that
- 21 has been given to you which requires your close attention. It's an
- 22 instruction that Judge Allred read to you this morning that
- 23 distinguishes between providing personal services to the member of a

- 1 terrorist organization versus providing services to an organization
- 2 itself.
- I direct your attention to this top paragraph: To convict
- 4 the accused of providing material support for an international
- 5 terrorist organization, the government must prove beyond a reasonable
- 6 doubt that, in providing the material support, the accused did so
- 7 knowing that the material support could or would be utilized to
- 8 further the activities of the international terrorist organization,
- 9 not merely the personal interests of al Qaeda's individual members.
- 10 There needs to be an element of proof presented to the
- 11 Commission that the activities that Mr. Hamdan engaged in were
- 12 directed towards furthering al Qaeda as an organization, not bin
- 13 Laden as an individual. That's the meaning of that legal
- 14 instruction.
- There needs to be proof beyond a reasonable doubt that his
- 16 activities were intended to further the organization or its goals,
- 17 not just those of the boss. That's why, ladies and gentlemen,
- 18 Hitler's driver was not prosecuted as a war criminal.
- Now, the other point that needs to be made, I think, is
- 20 that the government has recognized the problem that it has in its
- 21 case. It has recognized the problem that it cannot supply that
- 22 element of proof, and so it trots out two assertions, two unsupported
- 23 assertions: One, that UBL is al Qaeda; that there's a complete

- 1 equation between these two. But consider that in light of the multi-
- 2 page power point presentation from Agent , the flowchart, the
- 3 block and line chart, many, many pages. It's an organization. Well,
- 4 fine, it's an organization when we need it to be a threat; but when
- 5 we need to establish that the services provided to the boss equaled
- 6 the services provided to the organization, well, we can just equate
- 7 the two.
- 8 The other thing that the government attempts to rely on is
- 9 some testimony, testimony obtained the second, the third, the fourth,
- 10 the tenth, the 20th, maybe the 40th time around, maybe the 40th time
- 11 around by Agent and Agent , testimony obtained
- 12 allegedly that there was a pledge of bayat. Okay.
- We heard Mr. Schneider cross-examine Mr. about
- 14 that point, put in front of Mr. the Arabic notes that not he
- 15 but that Agent was taking during that interrogation, a page
- 16 and a half of notes, a page and a half of notes that suddenly
- 17 mushroom into 11 typewritten single-spaced pages of interrogation
- 18 reports. And, lo and behold, in it is a statement that the accused
- 19 pledged bayat to bin Laden, despite the fact that in the document in
- 20 evidence, the 302, the interrogation summary of Special Agent
- there's a statement: Hamdan denies pledging bayat. Hamdan
- 22 was approached by Saif al Adel and asked to pledge bayat. He
- 23 refused.

- Well, the 40th time around, I guess they thought they get
- 2 what they needed in terms of a statement. But when it came to
- 3 actually looking at the Arabic notes, it's a little less clear. When
- 4 it came to putting those notes in front of Agent , it's not
- 5 clear that he could read those or decipher those. Evaluate that
- 6 evidence, then. Weigh that evidence for what it's worth.
- 7 But let's assume that there was such a pledge. Let's
- 8 assume that Agent heard it right, recorded it right, and
- 9 there was such a pledge. What does it mean? It means that there is
- 10 a pledge of loyalty to an individual, not to an organization. Even
- if a bayat was given, it's a pledge of loyalty--it's an archaic term.
- 12 It goes back to tribal Arabic culture, a pledge of loyalty to a
- 13 leader, not to an organization.
- 14 Okay. Well, I appreciate your patience. I have spoken for
- 15 a long time, and I'll close. I would, however, be remiss if I did
- 16 not offer a few thoughts on the significance of the proceeding here.
- 17 This is the first military commission trial conducted by the United
- 18 States in over half a century, since the World War II era. Since the
- 19 passage of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the UCMJ----
- 20 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: Objection. This is now beyond any evidence.
- 21 He's talking about statutes not at issue in this Commission.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Where are we going to this part there, Mr.
- 23 McMillan?

- 1 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, I simply wanted to indicate
- 2 that there is tremendous attention focused on the proceedings here
- 3 today, given their very extraordinary and unusual nature, attention
- 4 not only domestically but internationally. And it's an attention
- 5 that has significance for the war on terror. It's an attention----
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. You can make that point.
- 7 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: In fact----
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I am sure the members will do their duty
- 9 whether there's attention focused on them or not, and I don't want
- 10 this to be some kind of an undercurrent threat that they should do
- 11 something they wouldn't otherwise do. But I think the points you
- 12 offered to make are fair, and you may make them.
- 13 CDC [MR. MCMILLAN]: Your Honor, I couldn't agree--there is no
- 14 doubt whatsoever in my mind that the members will do their duty.
- The final set of comments that I think are appropriate or
- 16 the point that I would like to make, that as you look at this
- 17 evidence and as you apply this body of law, you hold in the forefront
- 18 of your minds the values that define us as a people and that define
- 19 our legal tradition. Values that are set out in the instructions the
- 20 military judge has read. Values like a presumption of innocence
- 21 until guilt is proven beyond a reasonable doubt; values like
- 22 individual responsibility rather than guilt by association; values
- 23 like equal justice under the law. These are the values that define

- 1 who we are and that we need to demonstrate to the world are in
- 2 evidence in every American court.
- I have no doubts whatsoever that the law as instructed by
- 4 the Judge will be fairly and impartially applied. The law of war is
- 5 the applicable law here. It's the law that protects our own young men
- 6 and women on the battlefield. It's the law we want to invoke
- 7 strongly, urgently whenever our own young men and women, God forbid,
- 8 fall into the hands of the enemy. It's a law that we cannot
- 9 undermine. We cannot tear the fabric of that body of law, a body of
- 10 law that the United States has been at the forefront of promoting for
- 11 the past century and more.
- 12 I'll close simply by noting that you have been instructed
- 13 that the rule as to reasonable doubt stands to every element of the
- 14 offense as charged; that the prosecution has not proven beyond a
- 15 reasonable doubt the elements of either conspiracy or material
- 16 support for terrorism. And, as Judge Allred read, each of you must
- 17 now impartially decide whether the accused is guilty or not guilty
- 18 according to this law under the evidence admitted in this court, and
- 19 according to the dictates of your own conscience. The defense would
- 20 submit that the evidence and the law require a verdict of not quilty
- 21 on both charges.
- Thank you for your patience and your attention.
- 23 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you, Mr. McMillan.

- I think I will call for a recess now before we hear the
- 2 government's final closing argument. We'll stand in recess for 10 to
- 3 15 minutes.
- 4 [The military commission recessed at 1526, 4 August 2008.]
- 5 [The military commission was called to order at 1541, 4 August 2008.
- 6 All parties present when the commission recessed were once again
- 7 present.]
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order. We'll turn this
- 9 time over to the government for their closing final argument.
- 10 CTC [MR. MURPHY]: Thank you, your Honor.
- 11 Mr. President and members, the government has been
- 12 anxiously awaiting to address many of the arguments of the defense,
- 13 many of which cloud issues, incorrectly state the government's
- 14 theory, and create a misimpression of the view.
- 15 And the first important one to start with is the defense
- 16 has somehow in its argument attempted to mischaracterize Charge I,
- 17 the conspiracy charges, and it has mischaracterized it in a way to
- 18 suggest to you that this accused is actually charged with a
- 19 substantive offense, that is, attacking civilians, attacking civilian
- 20 objects, murder in violation of the law of war, destruction of
- 21 property in violation of the law of war, and terrorism.
- He's not charged with those substantive offenses; he is
- 23 charged as a conspirator to those offenses. And there's an important

- 1 distinction and an analogy I think that would be helpful to make that
- 2 point clear. And the analogy that the government would turn to is
- 3 that of a bank robbery and the getaway driver.
- 4 The getaway driver joins individuals knowing that they are
- 5 going commit a robbery, takes them in a vehicle, drives them to a
- 6 bank. Doesn't go into the bank; robs the bank--knows they robbed the
- 7 bank and return, and he drives them away. Under those facts, that
- 8 individual is a conspirator. He didn't commit the bank robbery
- 9 directly, but he joined others in committing a conspiracy. He did
- 10 his part, which is driving a car to rob the bank.
- 11 You could expand that analogy. Say the bank robbers called
- 12 a taxi company and told the taxi driver, "We are robbing a bank."
- 13 The robber goes in, robs the bank, returned, and did it multiple
- 14 times. Well, if that taxi driver came into court and said, "You
- 15 know, I was there just for the wages. I'm not involved in this, I'm
- 16 just there for the wages," that would not be a valid defense, because
- 17 if you knowingly join a group of individuals understanding that they
- 18 are about to commit a crime, you have signed up for what you
- 19 knowingly did. And, in the case of Mr. Hamdan, he knowingly signed
- 20 up to assist coconspirators who were committing the enumerated
- 21 offenses.
- The government has never suggested--and we stated this in
- 23 our opening to our closing argument -- that he was an actual planner,

- 1 that he was a mastermind. We've never said that. And when I was
- 2 before you a moment ago, I made that clear.
- What we have said to you is that he was a coconspirator,
- 4 and he did his part, his driving, his body guarding, his protective
- 5 service, his low-key movements, his shell game of moving bin Laden
- 6 around knowing that an operation was about to unfold, understanding
- 7 that that operation included terrorism, and seeing the results of it
- 8 not once but multiple times, after East Africa, after 9/11. He knew
- 9 what he was doing, and he is properly charged as a coconspirator to
- 10 that offense.
- 11 So don't let the defense confuse you to think that we have
- 12 somehow charged him with substantive offenses. We have not. In
- 13 Count 1, we have charge him properly as a coconspirator to this
- 14 offense. And I have given you a plethora of facts that shows you how
- 15 he committed overt acts in support of the charged conspiracy.
- 16 Now, the defense also seems to rely heavily on two high-
- 17 value detainees, Khalid Sheik Mohammed, KSM, and bin Attash. And
- 18 they also use them in a way to confuse you on the very same issue,
- 19 getting at questions like, was he a planner? Did he execute? Well,
- 20 the government would make a couple of points. First of all, these
- 21 are terrorists who are out to hurt America, and you should look at
- 22 their answers as such. The government never had a chance to cross-
- 23 examine these individuals to show their true bias. But what they did

- 1 admit to is that Hamdan did all the things we charged him with in the
- 2 conspiracy. And being a driver is an important part of his
- 3 contribution to this conspiracy. That's proved up through some of
- 4 the statements of KSM and bin Attash.
- 5 Don't be confused by the defense who is trying to make you
- 6 believe the government has overcharged the accused or mischarged the
- 7 accused. We have not. We have charged him properly within his role
- 8 of a conspirator acting with coconspirators, and not more. And it's
- 9 the effort by the defense to say we have overreached that creates
- 10 that misimpression.
- Now, some other points that I want to tick through that
- 12 were raised was, there was a claim that Mr. Hamdan only worked with
- 13 UBL for a short period of time. In fact, he worked with him from '96
- 14 through 2001. He departed him twice, once to get married, and once
- 15 to go on a Hajj. And each time he returned, returned knowing exactly
- 16 what Usama bin Laden was doing with his terror activities.
- On the issues of the missiles to Kandahar, it's
- 18 preposterous to think that this accused was taking those missiles
- 19 anywhere else other than to al Qaeda. He got the car to drive there
- 20 from an al Qaeda operative. He was heading towards Tarnak Farms, an
- 21 al Qaeda stronghold. He was shown to be part of no other
- 22 organization other than al Qaeda, and he told Agent , when he
- 23 was captured, he was then going to be going on to UBL, himself. He

- 1 had \$1,900, he had the missiles in the car, he had forged documents.
- 2 He was heading to Kandahar to meet up with someone with a mechanism
- 3 to fire that missile.
- 4 On the issue of bayat, the defense really tries to minimize
- 5 that, don't they, saying that it's only some sort of pledge of
- 6 loyalty? But when they leave it at that, they are really leaving out
- 7 a lot of the evidence. The admission that he pledged bayat to Agent
- 8 , which was made plainly and clearly to you, showed that this
- 9 accused signed up for being willing to attack the crusaders. And, by
- 10 that, he means the West, including Americans and coalition forces,
- 11 and the Jews. And it's clear that he means to attack those people
- 12 through his bayat, because he creates an exception. He says, "But I
- 13 won't attack Muslims. I won't tolerate Muslim-on-Muslim attacks."
- 14 But he fully signed up to be a warrior to attack the crusaders, or
- 15 us. So don't let the defense try and minimize that pledge of
- 16 loyalty. And when you combine that with his other statement, that
- 17 when he knew of the attacks and worked with UBL he had uncontrollable
- 18 enthusiasm, zeal, or passion, you know what his real intent was.
- 19 The defense raises issues of cooperation and talks about
- 20 some examples, that's a complete red herring, in a findings hearing.
- 21 Cooperation has nothing to do with guilt or innocence, which you are
- 22 to decide today. Any effort to go down that discussion is to divert
- 23 you from the facts of his guilt and his cooperation. Whatever it may

- 1 have been or however slight it may have been is not an issue of
- 2 guilty or innocence. You should not be distracted on that point.
- 3 There were other issues that the defense raises that are
- 4 important to point out. It talks about how proximity is the only
- 5 thing that the government has proved in these conspiracy charges, but
- 6 is that really right? Have we only shown he was there? Or did we
- 7 show that he did things, things that were important to advance this
- 8 conspiracy?
- 9 Now, I have spent a lot of time ticking through them in
- 10 some detail; and I won't go through them in the great detail I did
- 11 earlier, but any suggestion that he was merely present or just
- 12 proximate flies in the face of all the evidence you have seen. He
- 13 helped make it possible. These terror attacks could not have been
- 14 carried out without the ability to transport the leadership before,
- 15 during, and after the attack, and allow them to kill on another day.
- 16 When we proved to you that he did things like evacuation,
- 17 transportation, secretive, and provided communications, and then the
- 18 defense comes back and says, well, he was just there, he was just
- 19 proximately around? That's not a fair characterization of the
- 20 offenses or facts in this case. In fact, they even go so far as to
- 21 say, well, why not charge family members? I don't know how much more
- 22 preposterous you can get. We are not charging family members, we are
- 23 not charging bystanders, we are not charging people that were

- 1 uninvolved. We are charging people that are full coconspirators,
- 2 knowing, signed up, and understand exactly what's about to happen.
- 3 Before East Africa and 9/11, he knew terrorism, specifically
- 4 terrorism, was about to take place, and he signed up for it and he
- 5 played his role.
- On the issue of the conflict itself, the defense very
- 7 conveniently tries to push that date all the way into October of
- 8 2001, ignoring all of the vital facts that show that this armed
- 9 conflict began far earlier. And you know from the cross-examination
- 10 of Professor Corn by Commander Stone that there are many objective
- 11 factors that showed that al Qaeda was at war far earlier. You can
- 12 just look at the '92 Yemeni attack, the '93 Somalia attack where
- 13 American soldiers were dragged through the streets; the '95 Riyadh
- 14 attack in Saudi Arabia; the 1996 declaration of war, when al Qaeda
- 15 really became operational, was capable of striking us, and told us
- 16 they would do so. Then, the '98 declaration against America, yet
- 17 another written statement from leadership saying what their
- 18 intentions are. Then, the attacks of East Africa, the attack of the
- 19 COLE, the attack of 9/11. Each and every example of armed conflict,
- 20 not something happening way off in October of 2001, happening much
- 21 earlier.
- In essence, what the defense is saying is that armed
- 23 conflict doesn't begin until we respond. So does that mean that al

- 1 Qaeda gets multiple free shots at us before it's considered armed
- 2 conflict? Absolutely not, and it's preposterous to suggest
- 3 otherwise. To rely on statutes, ROE, Presidential addresses, and
- 4 say, oh, that's where we should fix that point, ignores reality,
- 5 ignores the deaths that have occurred over the '90s, much earlier
- 6 even in fact than we have alleged in this charge sheet beginning in
- 7 1996.
- 8 So, to say that you should ignore all of that really flies
- 9 in the face of objective reality and the factors that the
- 10 instructions tell you to look at as objective factors in determining
- 11 when armed conflict begins. You should feel very confident that the
- 12 date we've given you, 1996, is at least the date it began. There's
- 13 evidence that it began earlier.
- 14 Now, on the issue of the Ansars, the defense seems to
- 15 create this impression that somehow there was this other group that
- 16 Mr. Hamdan belonged to, that he had nothing to do with al Qaeda in
- 17 his activities but, rather, he was connected to the Taliban or the
- 18 Ansars. But the facts in that regard are completely otherwise.
- 19 Hamdan was al Qaeda. Every fact of this case points to that. There
- 20 is no fact that suggests he belonged to this Ansar group. And his
- 21 only contact with the Taliban, if you recall the testimony, was
- 22 occasionally to get supplies from them and take them, where? Not to
- 23 other Taliban. To take them to al Qaeda. To suggest that he was not

- 1 al Qaeda or that he was not involved directly with them really flies
- 2 in the face of all of the important factors in this case.
- 3 Commander Mizer made an interesting statement very early in
- 4 his closing argument that I think suggests just how far afield the
- 5 defense's arguments are from reality. He said--and I think I have
- 6 this quote right--he never intended to join a conspiracy to kill.
- 7 But that's not right. He intended to join a conspiracy to kill, and
- 8 he saw it unfolding and he stayed. He knew of the violence that
- 9 Usama bin Laden preached. He knew of Usama bin Laden even before he
- 10 met him. He knew of the violent terrorist attack that was about to
- 11 unfold before East Africa, and he remained. He heard about the
- 12 attack on the COLE, learned that it was al Qaeda, and then returned
- 13 to UBL. He knew before the 9/11 attacks, helped hide bin Laden, and
- 14 remained. He absolutely joined this conspiracy. He didn't commit
- 15 the substantive offenses, we agree on that. But he did commit the
- 16 violation, the serious violation of joining a conspiracy, and he did
- 17 his part to ensure that it was carried out.
- 18 Did the accused only provide personal services to one
- 19 person, or did he provide it to an organization? Was he the personal
- 20 servant of only bin Laden, or was he a conspirator with al Qaeda?
- 21 The first point government would make--and these facts truly bear
- 22 this out--is there's no distinction between al Qaeda and bin Laden.
- 23 Bin Laden and al Qaeda are one and the same. And the fact that he

- 1 gets paid personally from Usama bin Laden probably cements the point
- 2 more than it's a defense point for them to raise. He was out not as
- 3 a personal servant of one man; he was there to serve an organization.
- 4 Remember, his convoys consisted of more than just bin Laden. It was
- 5 other al Qaeda leaders. He went to events and saw Ayman al Zawahiri,
- 6 another senior al Qaeda leader. He saw them together. He
- 7 facilitated those meetings. He defended those meetings. The fact
- 8 that the defense is trying to turn this into--what would you call it
- 9 --a personal service contract between two men really flies in the
- 10 face of the facts.
- 11 Make no mistake. He was serving a terrorist organization,
- 12 an international terrorist organization, not one person. And there
- 13 should be no mistaking the fact that bin Laden and al Qaeda are one
- 14 and the same.
- The fact that he was paid for his services doesn't change
- 16 that fact. Just like in the bank robbery, if you are paying the
- 17 getaway driver and the getaway driver comes into court and says,
- 18 "Well, I was only a wage earner. I only got paid to drive these bank
- 19 robbers around," that's not a defense. If you know you are
- 20 transporting people who are about to commit an act and you do it
- 21 repeatedly, you become a coconspirator.
- When you go back, look at the facts, the enormous number of
- 23 facts the government has put forward for you to consider. Consider

- 1 the charges not as the defense would mischaracterize the charges, but
- 2 as they really are, and ask yourself: Did he play a part in this
- 3 conspiracy that was substantial? That moved it forward? Did he
- 4 provide material support in support of terrorism, international
- 5 terrorist groups and terrorist acts? Every fact shows that he did.
- When you go back, don't leave your common sense behind.
- 7 Consider the ways of the world; understand what this individual did
- 8 as he had been charged, and the government believes that you will
- 9 return, not with a clouded version of what happened or a clouded
- 10 version of our theory, but a clear understanding that Salim Hamdan
- 11 committed material support of terrorism offenses and entered into
- 12 conspiracies. We look forward to your verdict.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Thank you, Mr. Murphy.
- 14 Members of the Court, counsel for both sides have referred
- 15 to the instructions that I have given you. I would like to remind
- 16 you that if there is any inconsistency between their version of the
- 17 instructions and what I will send back with you, my version is
- 18 correct.
- 19 The following procedural rules will apply to your
- 20 deliberations and must be observed.
- 21 The influence of superiority in rank will not be employed
- 22 in any manner in an attempt to control the independence of the
- 23 members in the exercise of their own personal judgment. Your

- 1 deliberations should include a full and free discussion of the
- 2 evidence that has been presented.
- 3 After you have completed your discussion, then voting on
- 4 your findings must be accomplished by secret written ballot. All
- 5 members of the Court are required to vote. The order in which the
- 6 several charges and specifications are to be voted upon should be
- 7 determined by the President, subject to objection by a majority of
- 8 the members. You vote on the Specifications under the charge before
- 9 you vote on the charge.
- 10 If you find the accused guilty of any Specification under a
- 11 charge, the finding as to that charge must also be guilty.
- 12 The junior member will collect and count the votes. The
- 13 count will then be checked by the President, who will immediately
- 14 announce the results of the ballot to the members.
- Do you know who the junior member is? Member number nine.
- 16 Thank you.
- 17 The concurrence of at least two-thirds of the members
- 18 present when the vote is taken is required for any finding of guilty.
- 19 Since we have six members, that means four members must concur in any
- 20 finding of guilty. If you have at least four votes of guilty of any
- 21 offense, then that will result in a finding of guilty for that
- 22 offense. If fewer than four members vote for a finding of guilty,
- 23 then your ballot has resulted in a finding of not guilty.

- 1 You may reconsider any finding prior to its being announced
- 2 in open court. However, after you vote, if any member expresses a
- 3 desire to reconsider that finding, open the Court, the President
- 4 should announce only that a reconsideration of a finding has been
- 5 proposed. Do not state whether the finding proposed to be
- 6 reconsidered is a finding of guilty or not guilty. Do not state
- 7 which Specification and Charge is involved. I will then give you
- 8 specific further instructions on the procedure for reconsideration.
- 9 As soon as the Court has reached its findings and I have
- 10 examined the findings worksheet, the findings will be announced by
- 11 the President in the presence of all the parties. As an aid in
- 12 putting your findings in proper form and making a proper announcement
- 13 of the findings, you may use the findings worksheet, the next
- 14 appellate exhibit in order. What's the number? 320.
- Where's the findings worksheet? In the other room. Okay.
- 16 Can the bailiff get in there to get it? Would you go in the court
- 17 reporter's office and get the findings worksheet, please? Sorry
- 18 about that.
- Okay. Captain, in a moment I will show you the findings
- 20 worksheet and talk to you about it. At the top of the first page
- 21 will be a portion that you can use if you find the accused guilty of
- 22 all charges and specifications, or not guilty of all charges and
- 23 specifications. If you should reach either of those findings, circle

- 1 the word you intend to be applied, cross out the word you don't
- 2 intend to apply so on the face of the document it's clear to you and
- 3 to the Court what your finding is.
- Would you show that to the senior member, please? Has it
- 5 been marked? I'm sorry, let's mark that.
- The second part of the worksheet will be used if you find
- 7 the accused guilty of some and not guilty of other specifications.
- 8 You will notice that under Charge I, Specification 1, for example,
- 9 the worksheet gives you the opportunity to find him either guilty or
- 10 not quilty of each of the alleged conspiracies and the overt acts
- 11 alleged. So, for example, you might find that he was a driver but
- 12 that he wasn't a bodyquard, and so you would reflect that
- 13 appropriately by circling guilty or not guilty on the worksheet.
- 14 Some of the specifications give you the opportunity to
- 15 enter findings by exceptions and substitutions. If you find that all
- 16 of a specification has been proven except a phrase or a number or
- 17 some language, in announcing your findings you will say, "We find you
- 18 guilty except for," the words that you found not to have been proven
- 19 beyond a reasonable doubt. If you need to substitute a different
- 20 number, then you may except the number you found not to be applicable
- 21 and substitute a different number. For example, the beginning date
- 22 of the armed conflict is an area where you might decide that February
- 23 of 1996 was not the date and some other date was.

- 1 Do you feel like you understand how the portions permitting
- 2 you to reflect findings by exceptions and substitutions might be
- 3 used?
- 4 PRES: Yes, sir.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good. The worksheet in no way indicates
- 6 an opinion by me or counsel concerning the findings you should reach
- 7 or any degree of guilt of this accused. It is merely included to aid
- 8 you in understanding what findings might be made in this case, and
- 9 for no other purpose whatsoever.
- 10 Are there any questions about the findings worksheet?
- 11 PRES: No, sir.
- 12 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Once you have finished filling in what is
- 13 applicable, please line out or cross out everything on the form that
- 14 is not applicable so that when I check your findings I can ensure
- 15 they are in proper form.
- 16 If during your deliberations you have any questions, please
- 17 write them on one of the question forms that have been provided to
- 18 you. The bailiff will bring it to me; I will assemble the parties in
- 19 the courtroom, and try to answer your question.
- The Manual for Military Commissions prohibits me and
- 21 everyone else from entering your closed-session deliberations. You
- 22 may not consult the Manual for Military Commissions or any other
- 23 legal publication unless it has been admitted into evidence. The

- 1 bailiff may enter from time to time to receive communications from
- 2 you, if you wish to send out a question or announce that you are
- 3 ready for a recess or something.
- 4 Any questions about the instructions I have given you so
- 5 far?
- 6 PRES: No, sir.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Are there any objections from either side to
- 8 the instruction as given?
- 9 TC [LCDR STONE]: No, sir.
- 10 DC [LCDR MIZER]: None from the defense, sir.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Bailiff, will you hand that to the
- 12 senior member, please?

13 [Bailiff did as directed.]

- 14 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: If it is necessary, your deliberations may be
- 15 interrupted by a recess, for example, to use the restroom. Before
- 16 you leave your closed-session deliberations, you must notify us; we
- 17 must come into the courtroom, formally convene, and then recess the
- 18 Court. After the recess, we must reconvene the Court and formally
- 19 again close for deliberations. With this in mind, Captain, do you
- 20 think you would like to take a recess before we begin deliberations,
- 21 or are you ready to close now and begin your deliberations?
- 22 PRES: Sir, you are saying close for the--at this juncture?

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: We are ready to close for deliberations. We
- 2 are all going on recess.
- 3 PRES: Right.
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: When you close for deliberations.
- 5 PRES: Okay.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: So we'll be able to use the restroom or take
- 7 a smoke or get some coffee.
- 8 PRES: And then----
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: If the members would like to do that before
- 10 they close for deliberations, let me know now and we will take a
- 11 recess that includes you.
- 12 PRES: Yes, sir, we would.
- 13 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. That sounds fair to me.
- 14 Okay. Now, the Prosecution and Defense Exhibits that have
- 15 been admitted into evidence will all be available to you in your
- 16 deliberations room. Some of them are SECRET documents which will be
- 17 brought to you in hard copy, others are various maps, photos, images
- 18 of various kinds. We'll have to figure out how to bring them to you.
- 19 There are several hundred pages, and right now they are in an
- 20 electronic format. So we'll work on that, and get them to you as
- 21 soon as we figure out how to do it.

- 1 Please do not mark on any of the exhibits except for the
- 2 findings worksheet on which you will record your findings. Sign at
- 3 that the bottom when you have reached a verdict. Fair enough?
- 4 PRES: Yes, sir.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. We'll take a recess, and reconvene in
- 6 the courtroom in about ten minutes.
- 7 [The military commission recessed at 1611, 4 August 2008.]
- 8 [The military commission was called to order at 1620, 4 August 2008.
- 9 All parties present when the commission recessed were once again
- 10 present.]
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order. Members of the
- 12 Court, you don't need to sit down if you don't want to. Are you
- 13 prepared to close now and deliberate?
- 14 PRES: Yes, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very well. The Court is closed. The members
- 16 can retire and deliberate.
- Mr. President, may I suggest that 1700, 1730, whenever you
- 18 are comfortable, you might want to recess for the evening and come
- 19 back tomorrow morning. So let us know when you feel like you are
- 20 ready to recess, and we'll adjourn for the day.
- 21 PRES: Yes, sir.
- 22 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Thank you. We'll wait to hear from
- 23 you.

- 1 [The members departed the courtroom.]
- 2 [The military commission terminated and the R.M.C. 803 session
- 3 commenced at 1622, 4 August 2008.]
- 4 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Please be seated. Let's see, we have
- 5 a couple of items to discuss outside to presence of the members.
- 6 Mr. Trivett, I would like to thank you again for bringing
- 7 that issue to my attention regarding the law of war. I want to make
- 8 sure the instructions are correct. I lay awake last night and got in
- 9 early this morning trying to make sure they are correct; and even
- 10 though it was late, I'm glad you brought your argument forward and
- 11 tried to get me to do the right thing, because that's an important
- 12 part of my job.
- I have given some additional thought to your request for
- 14 that instruction during the balance of the arguments, and I notice
- 15 that under the Manual for Military Commissions on page 4-12, which
- 16 lists the elements of murder in violation of the law of war, element
- 17 number 5 is that the killing was in violation of the law of war.
- 18 This reinforces my sense that somehow Congress intended to
- 19 incorporate principles of the law of armed conflict into this
- 20 offense, and that the instruction I gave the members was correct. I
- 21 hope that's so.
- Now, I still have pending a motion to give Mr. Hamdan
- 23 credit for pretrial confinement and some other pretrial confinement

- 1 related issues. This morning I received from the government an
- 2 affidavit of Colonel Vargo and some other associated papers, and I
- 3 understand that the defense has something as well.
- 4 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I thought it had been submitted. We have
- 5 submitted an affidavit from myself, along with the logbooks for Camp
- 6 Echo over the period of time.
- 7 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Did you bring that----
- 8 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I believe that's been submitted to the Court.
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: By hard copy or by----
- 10 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: E-mail.
- 11 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: I'm sorry. I didn't receive it, if it was,
- 12 and so I would ask you to bring it to me again. Just go ahead and
- 13 make a hard copy, if you would.
- 14 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: We'll make a hard copy and have it delivered
- 15 to you. Again, the hard copies were delivered, was sent by e-mail,
- 16 the affidavit itself. Because documents with the affidavit were
- 17 references are classified, they are hard copy documents, and we could
- 18 not get them.
- 19 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Well, wherever you took that package,
- 20 let's try to track that down. I would like to start taking a look at
- 21 that while the members are deliberating.
- I understand that Mr. Hamdan is going make a telephone call
- 23 this afternoon; and so, when the members return from deliberations

- 1 and when we recess for the night, that Mr. Hamdan might be absent
- 2 from that session of court. Is that according to the defense's
- 3 desire, so that he can be excused now to go make his telephone call?
- 4 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Provided that the Court explains to the
- 5 members that Mr. Hamdan is out making a phone call.
- 6 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Of course.
- 7 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Rather than his being absent as interpreted as
- 8 some sort of an "I don't care."
- 9 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. I'll be happy to do that. I'm just
- 10 trying to accommodate your wishes and his interest in calling his
- 11 family. So I'll make that announcement, if you'll remind me, when
- 12 the members are called back in.
- 13 The next item, I understand that the transcript of the
- 14 testimony of Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel has been
- 15 completed. It's being reviewed by the security reviewers now for the
- 16 redaction of classified portions. Hopefully, we'll have that to
- 17 release to the press and the public soon. I don't know how big a job
- 18 it is to do that redaction.
- 19 Now, the last topic I wanted to discuss is the delivery of
- 20 exhibits to the members. Many of these are hard copy classified,
- 21 which will be delivered to them in hard copy, but many more are
- 22 digital photos, other things that were displayed on the ELMO or

- 1 whatever and were captured by the court reporter in her electronic
- 2 file there.
- What I think will happen is that a computer will be
- 4 delivered to the members' deliberation room and a disk that has all
- 5 those exhibits on it, and it will be connected to a big screen TV so
- 6 that they can all see the exhibits at the same time. As long as the
- 7 parties are satisfied with that, I don't see the need to print off
- 8 several hundred pages of things, especially not six copies of several
- 9 hundred pages, and then we'll just leave it to the members to find on
- 10 the disk whatever they are looking for, open it up, display it to
- 11 themselves; and if they want help, we can sent the court reporter in,
- 12 if the parties are comfortable with that as well.
- 13 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I'm certainly willing to give it a try. And I
- 14 think that they probably are computer savvy enough to make it all
- 15 run, with the proviso that if they have questions or they can't find
- 16 something, they send out a question, rather than send in someone to
- 17 help pull it.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: All right. We'll see if we can make that
- 19 work.
- 20 TC [LCDR STONE]: I think we can make it work, sir.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Commander Stone, is there anything else you
- 22 would like to raise before we recess, then?
- TC [LCDR STONE]: No, sir.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Commander? Professor?
- 2 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Since you have not yet had an opportunity to
- 3 look at my affidavit or any of the other parts, I'll save that for
- 4 the morning until you have had the opportunity.
- 5 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Do you want to make additional argument on
- 6 that motion? Or just----
- 7 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: I do, in light of the discovery that we had
- 8 and in light of the case that we received. But I would rather you
- 9 have the opportunity to see it first before I argue it rather than--
- 10 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay. Why don't we do that tomorrow at some
- 11 point while the members are deliberating. If I can review those
- 12 materials tonight, we can----
- 13 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Perhaps, first thing in the morning after they
- 14 come back in.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Okay.
- 16 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Or if they have already reached a verdict,
- 17 then during a short break. Well, I count for----
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: You are hoping for the best, aren't you?
- 19 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: As a defense counsel, I consider all
- 20 possibilities.
- 21 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, that sounds good to me, too. Okay.
- 22 We'll recess then until the members are ready to come back into the
- 23 courtroom.

- 1 [The R.M.C. 803 session recessed at 1627, 4 August 2008.]
- 2 [The military commission was called to order at 1704, 4 August 2008.]
- 3 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Court is called to order. The members have
- 4 returned to the courtroom.
- 5 Mr. President, I understand you are ready to recess for the
- 6 evening.
- 7 PRES: I am, sir.
- 8 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: What time would the members like to continue
- 9 their deliberations in the morning?
- 10 PRES: 0830, if that's sufficient.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: We'll be here at 0830. I would like you be
- 12 aware that Mr. Hamdan was excused for the day. He has gone to make a
- 13 telephone call to his family. He will be back in the morning to wait
- 14 for your decision with the rest of us.
- 15 Are you satisfied, did we get the exhibits to you in a
- 16 manner in which you can use them and access them easily?
- 17 PRES: Yes, sir.
- MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Very good. Okay. We'll recess then until
- 19 tomorrow morning at 0830.
- 20 CDC [MR. SWIFT]: Your Honor, before the members adjourn, just
- 21 out of an abundance of caution we'd ask that the media instruction
- 22 regarding during deliberations be given.

- 1 MJ [CAPT ALLRED]: Well, yes, we are not adjourned. Please sit
- 2 down while I remind you not to discuss the case amongst yourselves
- 3 during the recess, the overnight adjournment, and not to discuss the
- 4 case with any members of the media that you may run in to, until the
- 5 end of the case.
- 6 Thank you. We'll stand in recess.
- 7 [The military commission recessed at 1705, 4 August 2008.]
- 8 [END OF PAGE]